VIZ SELECT

Manga by Kagami Yoshimizu

3

Lucky☆Star

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3

contents

episode 57 005 THIS WAY, THAT WAY
episode 58 009 LIFE ISN'T THAT FORGIVING
episode 59 014 IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT YOUR HEALTH...
episode 60 018 VARIOUS THINGS ABOUT SUMMER
episode 61 022 HARD WORKER
episode 62 026 THE WORLD REVOLVES AROUND ME
episode 63 031 TRUTH AND APPEARANCES
episode 64 035 LEAVING YOUR FUTURE TO OTHERS
episode 65 039 FREE ADVICE
episode 66 044 HANG IN THERE, GIRLS
episode 67 049 BRILLIANT COLORS
episode 68 053 THE SIBLINGS EQUATION
episode 69 057 SMALL ACCOMPLISHMENTS
episode 70 061 FIRING UP THE BRAIN CELLS
episode 71 065 MOMENTUM
episode 72 070 IDEALS AND REALITY
episode 73 077 BLIND TO INCONVENIENCES
episode 74 082 LONELY GIRL
episode 75 086 VOICE OF THE HEART
episode 76 092 THE INSTANT OF CHANGE
episode 77 097 DESPERATE
episode 78 102 TOP FORM TODAY TOO
episode 79 108 UNDAUNTED
episode 80 112 ADVANCE & RETREAT, OFFENSE & DEFENSE
episode 81 117 IMAGINARY TRAIN
episode 82 121 ROUGH SEAS
episode 83 125 WORK TOWARDS THE GOAL
episode 84 129 I LIKE YOU JUST THE WAY YOU ARE
episode 85 132 THE CURTAIN OPENS ON THE LEGEND
episode 86 135 A PLACID EARLY AFTERNOON
episode 87 138 MOE DRILL
special 147 EXTRAS

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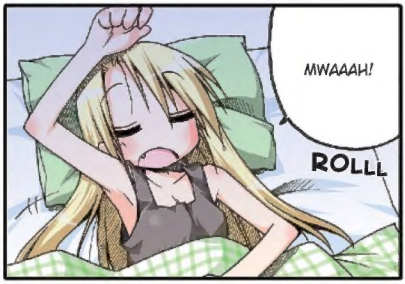
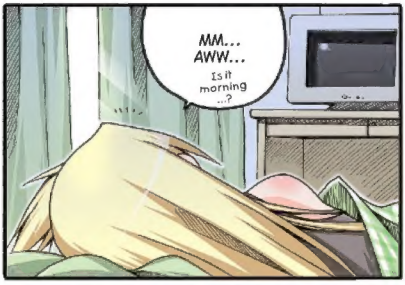
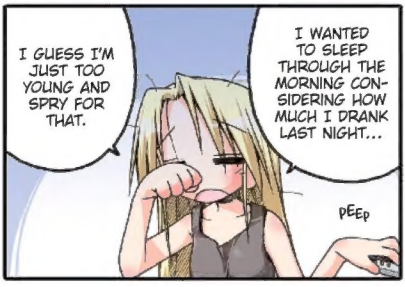
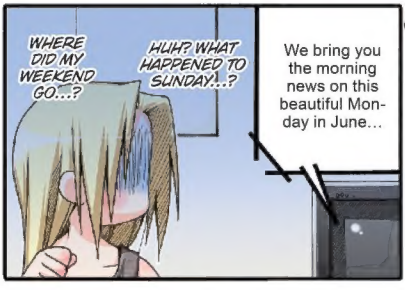
episode 57
this way, that way



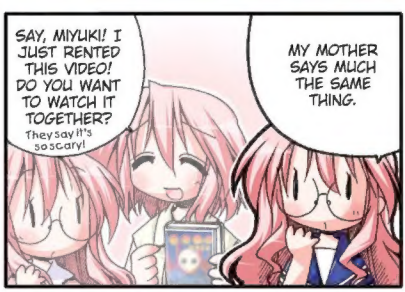



I GUESS I'M JUST TOO YOUNG AND SPRY FOR THAT.
I WANTED TO SLEEP THROUGH THE MORNING CONSIDERING HOW MUCH I DRANK LAST NIGHT...
PEEp



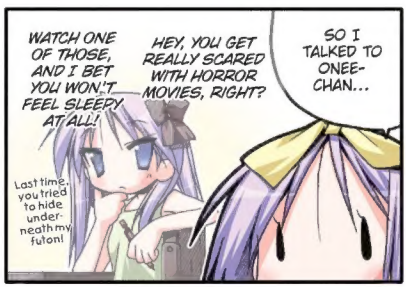
● Comptiq, September 2005 issue

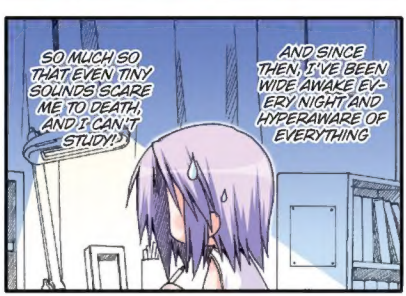
watching through your fingers


SAY, MIYUKI! I JUST RENTED THIS VIDEO! DO YOU WANT TO WATCH IT TOGETHER?
They say it's so scary!
MY MOTHER SAYS MUCH THE SAME THING.

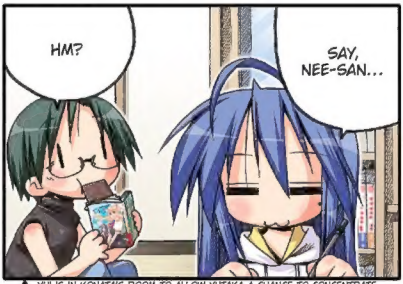
I REALLY HATE THEM, BUT I CAN'T SAY NO WHEN KONA-CHAN AND ONEE-CHAN INSIST!
THAT ISN'T IT, YUKI-CHAN!
IT'S SAID THAT THOSE WHO SAY THEY CAN'T TAKE FRIGHTENING MOVIES WATCH MOST INTENTLY.
EEEEEEEE
The more frightening, the more you watch.

tonight in sister's room again

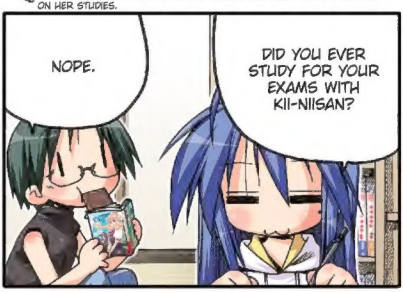

WATCH ONE OF THOSE, AND I BET YOU WON'T FEEL SLEEPY AT ALL!
HEY, YOU GET REALLY SCARED WITH HORROR MOVIES, RIGHT?
SO I TALKED TO ONEE-CHAN...
Last time, you tried to hide underneath my futon!

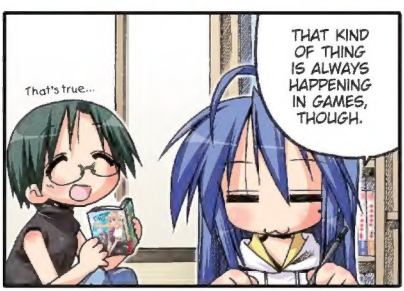

SO MUCH SO THAT EVEN TINY SOUNDS SCARE ME TO DEATH, AND I CAN'T STUDY!!
AND SINCE THEN, I'VE BEEN WIDE AWAKE EVERY NIGHT AND HYPERAWARE OF EVERYTHING

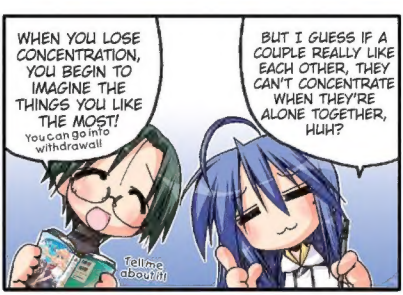
restless



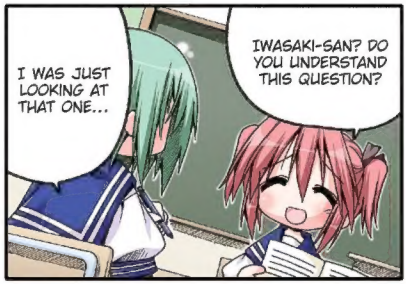
YUI IS IN KONATA'S ROOM TO ALLOW YUTAKA A CHANCE TO CONCENTRATE ON HER STUDIES.



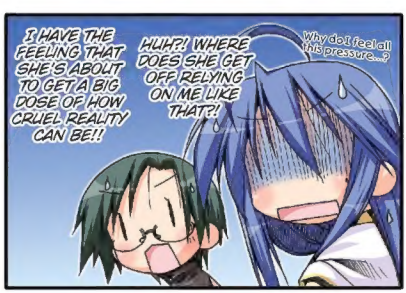



WHEN YOU LOSE CONCENTRATION, YOU BEGIN TO IMAGINE THE THINGS YOU LIKE THE MOST!
You can go into withdrawal!
BUT I GUESS IF A COUPLE REALLY LIKE EACH OTHER, THEY CAN'T CONCENTRATE WHEN THEY'RE ALONE TOGETHER, HUH?
Tell me about it!

battle strength comparison

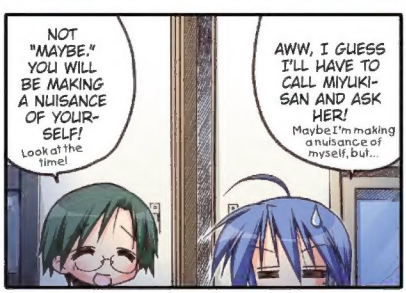


THAT'S RIGHT! THERE'S A SEMPAI THAT WE CAN RELY ON REALLY CLOSE BY! WE'RE SO LUCKY!
THINK ABOUT A IT A LITTLE WHILE LONGER, AND IF YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, ASK MIYUKI-SAN.

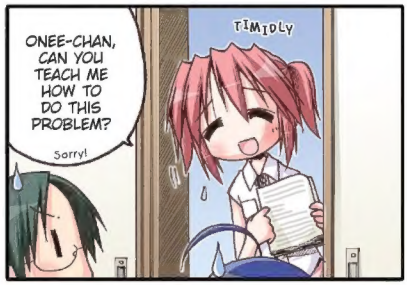

I HAVE THE FEELING THAT SHE'S ABOUT TO GET A BIG DOSE OF HOW CRUEL REALITY CAN BE!!
HUH?! WHERE DOES SHE GET OFF RELYING ON ME LIKE THAT?!
Why do I feel all this pressure...?

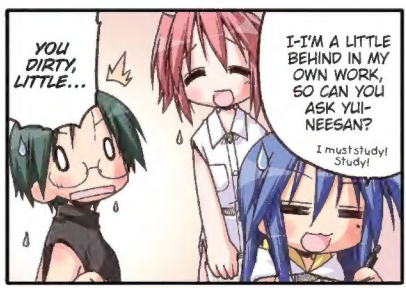
really amazing

DON'T ASK UNRELIABLE PEOPLE FOR HELP!
I'M COMPLETELY LOST!
NEE-SAN, DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
Didn't you see what just happened?


NOT "MAYBE." YOU WILL BE MAKING A NUISANCE OF YOURSELF!
Look at the time!
AWW, I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO CALL MIYUKI-SAN AND ASK HER!
Maybe I'm making a nuisance of myself, but...

various forms of study





YUTAKA IS GIVEN A VALUABLE LIFE EXPERIENCE.

Multiple-choice quiz! First question …
WATCHING A QUIZ SHOW …
B, FOR SURE!
YEAH, B.
IT'S B, RIGHT?
THAT KIND OF QUESTION IS EASY!
Now, for the next question!
WHEN AN EASY QUESTION COMES UP, EVERYBODY TALKS, BUT WHEN THEY'RE NOT SURE OF THE ANSWER, YOU CAN'T PRY WORDS OUT OF THEM WITH A CROWBAR!
HU〜SSH

Lucky☆Star

episode 58
life isn't that forgiving

● Shonen Ace, September 2005 issue

SHUMP
HM? OH, YEAH... AT THIS RATE, IT'LL PROBABLY RUN OVERTIME.
HOW DOES THE BASEBALL GAME BROADCAST LOOK TONIGHT?

I'D BE BETTER OFF JUST SETTING ALL OF MY RECORDINGS EXPECTING THE GAMES TO RUN LONG!
AGAIN?! YOU MEAN I'M GOING TO HAVE TO RESCHEDULE ALL OF MY RECORDINGS?!
Oh, geez!

I MEAN, IT TAKES SO LONG FOR ANYONE TO MAKE A SINGLE MOVE IN PRO BASEBALL!

COME ON, THE PEOPLE WHO LIKE THE GAME ENJOY THE PACE JUST AS IT IS.
And I'm sure players need the time to concentrate
YOU KNOW, IF THEY'D JUST FORCE THE PLAYERS TO PLAY AT A BETTER PACE, THEY COULD PLAY A WHOLE GAME IN NO TIME FLAT!

IZUMI, STAY AWAKE!

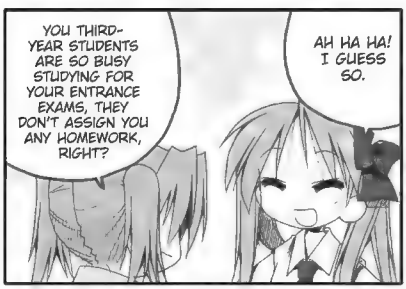
IN A WORLD SUCH AS OURS WHERE CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IS BANNED, YOU SEEM TO HIT PEOPLE PRETTY DARNED OFTEN!
I don't mind too much, but..

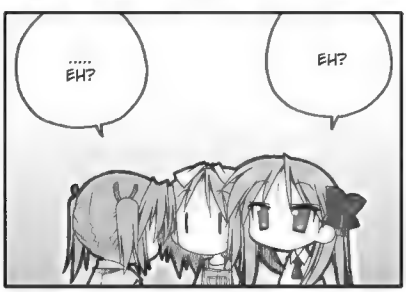
I CAREFULLY CHOOSE THE PEOPLE I'M GOING TO HIT, WEIGHING MANY FACTORS!
YA MAY HAVE A POINT THERE! BUT I'M VERY PICKY!
I don't want trouble later.

I mean, what's the ban on corporal punishment for anyway?
There's something amazing about that in itself.
WHOA! SHE JUST CAME OUT AND SAID IT!

not swimwear

human beings don't change that easily


YOU THIRD-YEAR STUDENTS ARE SO BUSY STUDYING FOR YOUR ENTRANCE EXAMS, THEY DON'T ASSIGN YOU ANY HOMEWORK, RIGHT?
AH HA HA! I GUESS SO.



SO WHAT? DO YOU DO DUMB THINGS ON PURPOSE HOPING TO USE IT TO GAIN CUTE-POINTS IN PEOPLE'S EYES?
Time to make my come-back!
TWRL TWRL

I DON'T GET IT! YOU'RE THE ONE GOING ON AND ON ABOUT HOW IT'S JUST SO MOE!
The boss'd get mad!!
But it could happen for real though.
NUH-UH. NEVER HAPPENED TO ME.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND AT ALL, KAGAMI! YES, A BIT OF DUMB-CHICK IS CUTE AND MOE, BUT...

I GUESS LIFE CAN BE PRETTY STRICT FOR YOU, HUH?
For otaku, I mean.
...YOU ADD SOME REAL DAMAGE TO IT, AND IT'LL JUST GET PEOPLE AN-NOYED AT YOU!
In games, they just laugh it off, but..
BEING BLUNT

YOU'RE UNASSUMINGLY CUTE AND DITZY AS EVER, MIYUKI-SAN!
I WAS READING MY BOOK AND I COMPLETELY MISSED MY STOP!

YOU DON'T GET IT AT ALL! WHEN SHE FINALLY ARRIVES WHERE SHE'S GOING, THAT LOOK OF EMBARRASSMENT IS ESPECIALLY MOE!
People think a small flaw or two make a girl cuter!
YOU THINK SO? I THINK IT'S A BIT OF A PROBLEM.

"SIR, I'M SO SORRY!!" OR SOME-THING LIKE THAT?
REALLY? WHEN YOU'RE AT WORK, DO YOU SAY, "KYAA!! I SPILLED ALL OVER YOU!!"

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BROUGHT THE WHOLE SUBJECT UP!!
Sure, it happened to me, but..
Come clean, what did you do?
KAGAMI, DID YOU ACT LIKE AN IDIOT AGAIN?

KONATA IZUMI

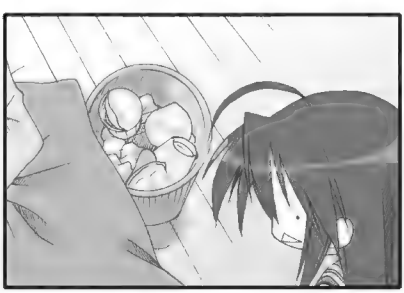
strong point: sports (but doesn't enjoy them)
weak point: anything scientific
An all-purpose otaku girl.
Marches to her own drummer, and always finds herself in the thick of any excitement.
Her athletic abilities don't help her. Not today or any day.

KAGAMI SEEMS TO CATCH THESE SUMMER COLDS A LOT, HUH?
STILL, THAT MEANS SHE ISN'T A FOOL, RIGHT?
Since they say that fools never catch cold!

episode 59
if you haven't got your health...

● Comptiq, October 2005 issue

pudding ice-cream yogurt



only human

YOU CAUGHT ONE LAST YEAR, RIGHT?
TODAY, MIYUKI WAS SAYING (SEE PREVIOUS STRIP) ABOUT COLDS.
Of course she denied it had anything to do with you.
Yeah, I've heard that saying too.
KOFF

HOW DO YOU CALCULATE THAT EXACTLY?
BUT YU-CHAN CATCHES COLDS IN WINTER, SO THE FINAL SUMMATION COMES OUT TO "NOT FOOL."
You subtract the negative "Fools never catch colds" but add the positive "Only fools catch Summer colds," and then you

OH, I'VE SEEN THAT COMMERCIAL TOO!
Just recently!
AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.

NOW THAT YOU MENTION BASEBALL ...

IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THAT?
It's only from noon to early evening, isn't it?
I LOVE SUMMER VACATION, BUT HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL IS ABOUT TO START, HUH?

All of Japan cries during Sakura time!
BUT IT PREEMPTS ALL THE NHK ANIME!!

SIII
IIIIGH

OH, TAKARA? WELL, A LOT HAS BEEN HAPPENING LATELY.
Thanks for turning it in.
IS ANYTHING THE MATTER?
Oh, here's today's attendance sheet.

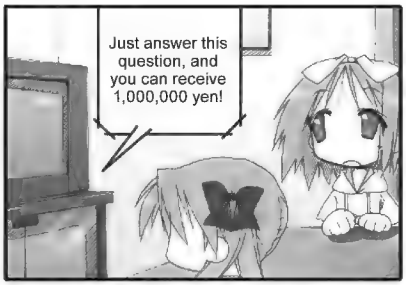
AT TIMES LIKE THIS, A THOUGHT SUDDENLY STRIKES ME.
Oh, it must be tough

I'M SO FRIGGING JEALOUS OF YOSHIKO!
I want to be allowed to go into the Lotte dugout too!!

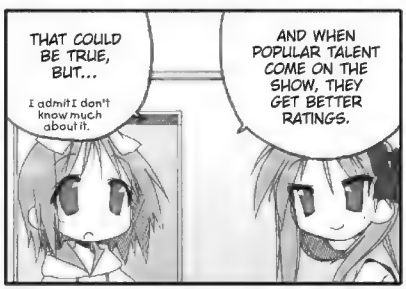
TSUKASA HIIRAGI

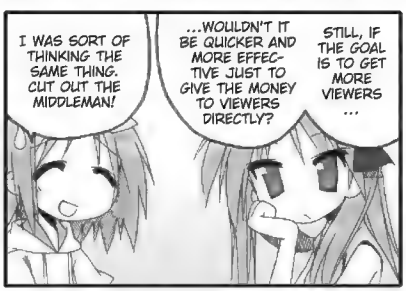
strong point: home economics
weak point: athletics
Nice, easygoing, and likes to help others.

Because she normally fails at most of the things she tries and has a somewhat scatterbrained personality, she is looked on as more of a failure than she actually is. She strives to become more of a "success" like her older sister is.



I GUESS IT'S A WAY TO GET THE POPULAR TALENT ON THEIR SHOWS.
THEY'RE ALWAYS GIVING AWAY PRIZES AND MONEY ON QUIZ SHOWS AND VARIETY SHOWS, HUH?




I WAS SORT OF THINKING THE SAME THING. CUT OUT THE MIDDLEMAN!
...WOULDN'T IT BE QUICKER AND MORE EFFECTIVE JUST TO GIVE THE MONEY TO VIEWERS DIRECTLY?
STILL, IF THE GOAL IS TO GET MORE VIEWERS ...

Lucky☆Star

episode 60
various things about summer

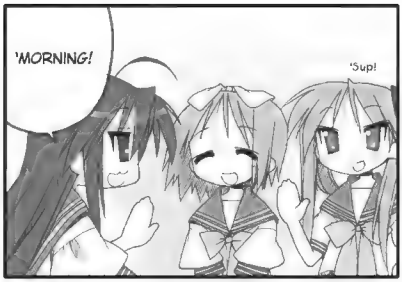
● Comptiq, October 2005 issue

SIGH... I'M BEAT TONIGHT!

OH, NO! I HAVE TO REPORT IN EARLY TO-MORROW.
TWIK
Ahh. Much better.

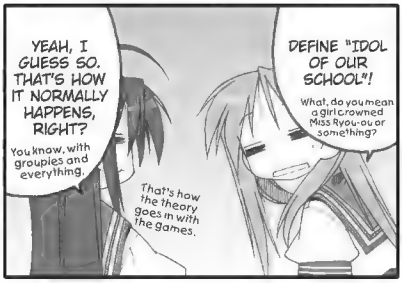
TONIGHT, I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO BE A GOOD GIRL AND GO TO BED WITHOUT SPENDING TIME ON THE NET.
It won't do to be late tomorrow.

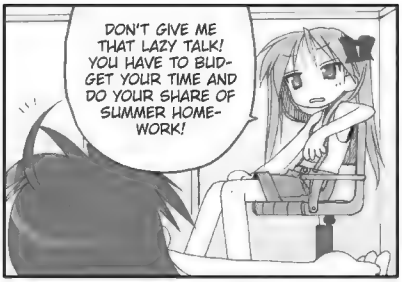
ARG! GOING TO BED EARLY = PROOF THAT I'M GET-TING OLD!
When I was a student, I'd spend all my time on whatever interested me and forget about sleep!


'MORNING!
'Sup!

AS I WAS PLAYING A GAME TODAY, IT SUDDENLY OCCURRED TO ME...

JUST WHO EXACTLY IS THE "IDOL" OF OUR SCHOOL?

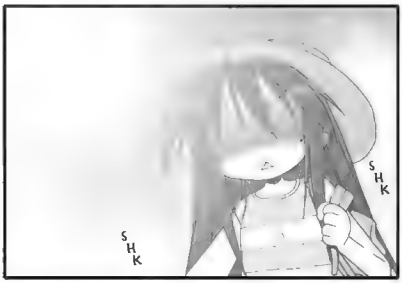

YEAH, I GUESS SO. THAT'S HOW IT NORMALLY HAPPENS, RIGHT?
You know, with groupies and everything.
That's how the theory goes in with the games.
DEFINE "IDOL OF OUR SCHOOL"!
What, do you mean a girl crowned Miss Ryou-ou or something?


DON'T GIVE ME THAT LAZY TALK! YOU HAVE TO BUDGET YOUR TIME AND DO YOUR SHARE OF SUMMER HOMEWORK!

...I VOW TO WORK REAL HARD THAT SUMMER!
Umph!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, EVERY YEAR BEFORE VACATION STARTS ...
Yeah, tell me another.

YEAH, AND...?
IT ALWAYS HAPPENS IN MANGA, RIGHT? HOW THE MAIN CHARACTER SUDDENLY REALIZES THEY SHE HASN'T DONE HER HOMEWORK YET.
Those stories come out right about now.

Don't say that and ask to copy my work!
ENOUGH EXCUSES! DO YOUR HOMEWORK!!
...THAT SUMMER HOMEWORK ISN'T REALLY A LIFE REQUIREMENT, IS IT?
SO WHEN YOU READ THOSE STORIES, DON'T YOU START TO PHILOSOPHIZE...
Just because everyone does it is no reason to.


S H K
S H K

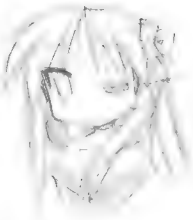
I've got the AC going.
'SUP! IT SURE IS!
'S-UP! IT SURE IS HOT OUT!

ROLLL
Wow, you can forget your trouble quickly, huh?
AH, THIS IS THE LIFE! ♪

I GET THE FEELING THAT I SPEND EVERY SUMMER THIS WAY, DOING NOTHING.
And before I realize it, Summer Vacation is over!

KAGAMI HIIRAGI

strong point: english class
weak point: home economics
Plays straight man and tsukkomi-style foil.
She is a good student, but also has many weaknesses.
Her penchant for frequent snacks makes her depressed every time she steps on the scale.



Lucky☆Star

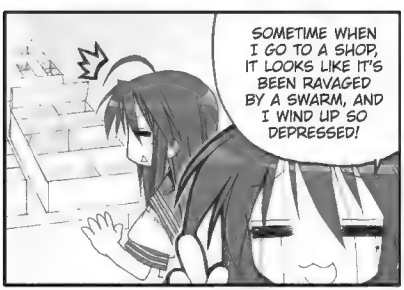
episode 61
hard worker

YOU HAVE AN IMPOSSIBLY WIDE STRIKE ZONE FOR THE PHRASE "COMMON SENSE."
It doesn't come anywhere close to what normal people think of as common sense.
ISN'T THIS COMMON SENSE?
If I skip this step, my money runs out way too quickly!

● Comptiq, October 2005 issue

BUT IF IT'S THAT EASY TO TELL, THEN THE GOOD STUFF WOULD QUICKLY RUN OUT, RIGHT?

THAT'S THE POINT! IT'S NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO FIND A RARE CARD OR SECRET FIGURE IN A DISTRICT THAT HOUSES A PRO COLLECTOR!

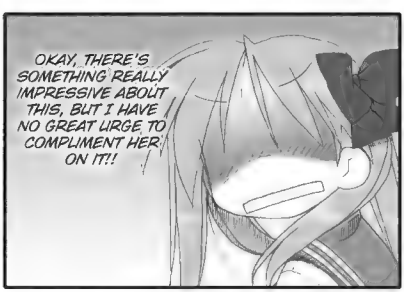

SOMETIME WHEN I GO TO A SHOP, IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN RAVAGED BY A SWARM, AND I WIND UP SO DEPRESSED!

I CAN SEE SOMETHING EXASPERATING IN YOUR NATURE.
BUT THEN A FAINT GLIMMER OF HOPE STRIKES ME, AND...
How exasperating!

IT ISN'T JUST FIGURES. THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE AFTER PARTICULAR TRADING CARDS TOO!
IF IT'S A CARD, HOW CAN YOU TELL ONE FROM THE OTHER?
They're all the same weight!!

Such as, "Always pick the third from the left"..
PLACES WHERE ONE CAN PICK UP VALUABLE CARDS, OR SPECIAL MARKS ON THE PACKAGING, OR UNUSUAL PATTERNS...
THERE ARE RUMORS AND LEGENDS SURROUNDING THAT VERY POINT!

eh heh!
They follow a pattern, you see!
BY THE WAY, IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THE SPECIAL CARDS FOUND IN CANDY BOXES, YOU CAN FIND IT BY AN INFORMED GUESS.
As long it's a just-opened box.


OKAY, THERE'S SOMETHING REALLY IMPRESSIVE ABOUT THIS, BUT I HAVE NO GREAT URGE TO COMPLIMENT HER ON IT!!

just slightly better than tag

ON THE OTHER HAND, I'VE BEEN GOING ALL-OUT PRACTICING ALL THOSE TECHNIQUES THEY DO IN MANGA!
Like the Futae no-Kiwami and Dempsey Roll!
No you haven't!

never forget your inner child

IF YOU BUY THEM ALL AT ONCE, YOU CAN COMPLETE THE COLLECTION IN NO TIME AND SEE THE FULL PATTERN THAT THE FIGURES SHOULD BE ARRANGED IN!
Oh, really?

REALLY ...
BUT THEY CALL THAT ADULT BUYING BECAUSE OF THE AMOUNT OF INVESTMENT INVOLVED.
"Adult Buying" huh?
A fan needs all sorts of part time work!

MMMM...
YOU CALL IT "ADULT BUYING" BUT IT'S ACTUALLY PRETTY CHILDISH, ISN'T IT?
Maybe calling it Big Child Buying would be more accurate.
I don't know whether to call it greedy or monopolizing..

MIYUKI TAKARA

strong point: none to speak of
weak point: none to speak of
She is the type who likes knowledge and finds studying fun.
Although there is a question of whether she has no power of concentration, or whether she just zones out at times.
Her gentle manners has made her a cushion softening possible conflicts around her.
She's afraid of hospitals and doctors (especially dentists).

Lucky☆Star

episode 62
the world revolves around me

I HATE THEM! THEY'RE LOUD AND THEY ALWAYS GET AWAY BEFORE YOU CAN TAKE CARE OF THEM!
THE MOMENT THE WEATHER HEATS UP, THEY'RE SUDDENLY EVERYWHERE, HUH?
They're dirty too!

HUH? I-I DON'T BUY THAT!
THEY SAY THAT THE SWORD EXPERT, MIYAMOTO MUSASHI WAS ABLE TO CATCH FLIES IN HIS CHOPSTICKS.
You're kidding, right?

THAT'S WHAT YOU DON'T BELIEVE?
Not that I don't see where you're coming from.
I DON'T SEE HOW ANYBODY COULD TOUCH THOSE BUGS USING THE VERY THINGS THEY EAT WITH!
Makes me sick!

● Shonen Ace, October 2005 issue

falling through the educational cracks

WITH JUST A LITTLE ADVENTURE IN YOUR SOUL, A SMALL EVENT CAN BECOME PRICELESS!
HIKING IN THE MOUNTAINS! SWIMMING IN THE OCEAN! POOLS! CYCLING!!

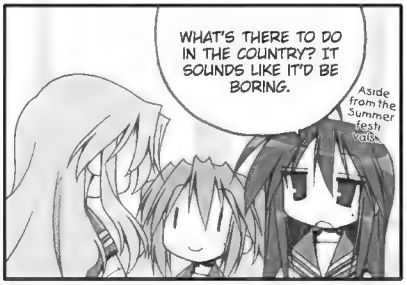
COULD IT BE BECAUSE YOU'RE SELF-INDULGENT AND DON'T PLAN ANYTHING?
...BUT BEFORE I KNOW IT, SUMMER'S GONE AND I HAVEN'T DONE A THING! WHY IS THAT?

schedule

WE'RE HAVING TROUBLE COMING UP WITH PLANS SINCE SUMMER VACATION IS SO LONG!
Don't be so critical!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU! YOU SHOULD BE STUDYING FOR ENTRANCE EXAMS, BUT YOU'RE ALL ABOUT THE FUN, HUH?

She sees copying homework as standard practice.
MINEGISHI, DON'T YOU SEE SOMETHING WRONG WITH THIS GIRL'S VIEWS ON EDUCATION?
THE LAST FEW DAYS WE SPEND COPYING OTHER PEOPLE'S HOMEWORK! YOU'RE FREE THEN, RIGHT?
Copying is a pain isn't it...

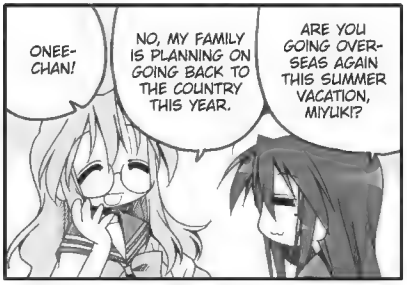
like beach balls



BUT I SUPPOSE THERE ARE OTHER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS WALKING IN THE WOODS, SWIMMING IN THE RIVERS, AND FIREWORKS.
I'M RATHER EXPECTING TO CENTER MY TIME AROUND MY STUDIES.

I CAN SEE THAT, BUT I'VE BEEN WONDERING SOMETHING FOR A WHILE NOW...
OH, YES! OF COURSE, I CAN'T SWIM, SO I SIMPLY RELAX ON THE RIVERSIDE.
There are plenty of children playing during the Summer.
HUH? THERE ARE RIVERS WHERE YOU'RE GOING?

pretty girl in a kimono

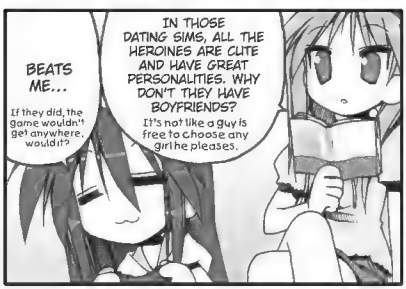

ONEE-CHAN!
NO, MY FAMILY IS PLANNING ON GOING BACK TO THE COUNTRY THIS YEAR.
ARE YOU GOING OVERSEAS AGAIN THIS SUMMER VACATION, MIYUKI?

OH, IS THAT SO? OH, IS THAT SO?
MINAMI-SAN GOES WITH ME TO THOSE RURAL COUNTRY FESTIVALS QUITE OFTEN TOO!
She's like a little sister to me.

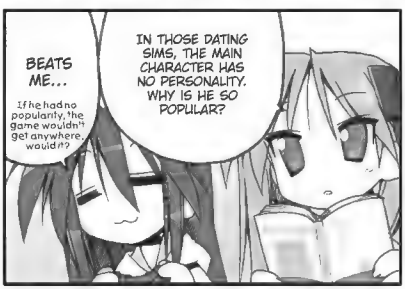
OH, YES! SHE WEARS THEM EVERY YEAR, AND THEY LOOK WONDERFUL ON HER!
I wouldn't say that.
YOU SEEM LIKE THE TYPE THAT WOULD LOOK GREAT IN A YUKATA!
SO YOU GO TO SUMMER FESTIVALS, IWASAKI-SAN?

...BUT FOR SOME REASON, I CAN'T SIMPLY BE HAPPY ABOUT IT.
I almost feel like they're saying I'm flat chested.
I KNOW THAT I'M BEING PRAISED HERE...
ZUUUUU
UUUN
PAT
PAT

repulsive force


BEATS ME...
If they did, the game wouldn't get anywhere, would it?
IN THOSE DATING SIMS, ALL THE HEROINES ARE CUTE AND HAVE GREAT PERSONALITIES. WHY DON'T THEY HAVE BOYFRIENDS?
It's not like a guy is free to choose any girl he pleases.

gravitation


BEATS ME...
If he had no popularity, the game wouldn't get anywhere, would it?
IN THOSE DATING SIMS, THE MAIN CHARACTER HAS NO PERSONALITY. WHY IS HE SO POPULAR?

NANAKO KUROI

strong point: world history
weak point: english
The homeroom teacher for Konata's class.
A very friendly teacher and popular with her students.
Her hobbies are watching baseball and playing net games, so her weekends are pretty full.

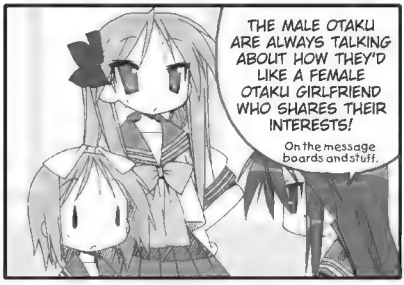
Lucky☆Star

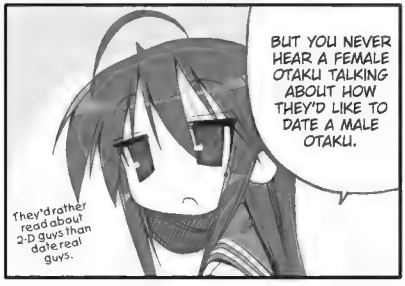
episode 63
truth and appearances

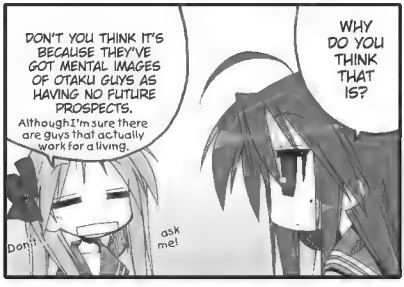
I CAN UNDER-STAND THAT. HE JUST WOULDN'T QUIT, HUH?
AND THAT'S ABOUT HOW IT WAS.
GYUeeeeeeeeeen
IPH PHURZZ, DOGH-TORR...
AH, YES. BUT IT'LL BE OVER SOON.
AGWAA EEE!!!
It frightens me just hearing it.

● Comptiq, November 2005 issue

SPEAKING OF OTAKU ...


THE MALE OTAKU ARE ALWAYS TALKING ABOUT HOW THEY'D LIKE A FEMALE OTAKU GIRLFRIEND WHO SHARES THEIR INTERESTS!
On the message boards and stuff.


BUT YOU NEVER HEAR A FEMALE OTAKU TALKING ABOUT HOW THEY'D LIKE TO DATE A MALE OTAKU.
They'd rather read about 2-D guys than date real guys.


WHY DO YOU THINK THAT IS?
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S BECAUSE THEY'VE GOT MENTAL IMAGES OF OTAKU GUYS AS HAVING NO FUTURE PROSPECTS.
Although I'm sure there are guys that actually work for a living.
Don't ask me!

YEAH. AND IT'S ALL BAD NEWS!
THEY'RE FEATURING AKIHABARA A LOT ON THE NEWS AND STUFF LATELY, HUH?

WELL, I'M SURE THEY DO SOME EXAGGERATION, BUT ISN'T THAT BECAUSE THE TRUTH IS SO ODD?
I DON'T MIND SEEING THE COVERAGE, BUT LOOKING AT IT, I CAN'T HELP BUT SENSE HOSTILITY.

BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, THE OTAKU CULTURE IS A REALLY POPULAR SUBJECT IN THE DRAMAS AND SONGS!

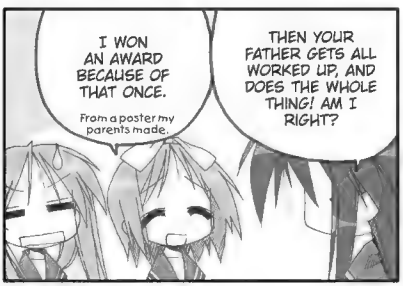
I DON'T KNOW... ISN'T IT THAT THE NORMAL PEOPLE ARE USING IT WITHOUT KNOWING WHERE IT COMES FROM?
EVEN THE NATIONAL NEWS SHOWS USE GAME BGM IN THE BACKGROUND!

recovering youth

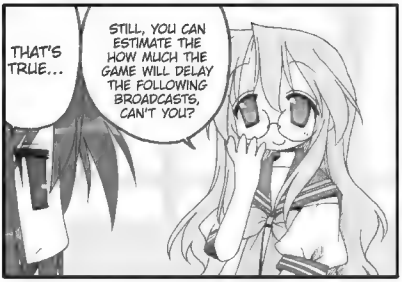
I DON'T GET IT! ON TOP OF GOING TO SUMMER CLASSES, WHY DO THEY HAVE TO PILE ON HOMEWORK TOO?!
It's supposed to be Summer vacation!
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? YOU DON'T DO HOMEWORK ANYWAY!

BESIDES, THIS ISN'T LIKE IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OR MIDDLE SCHOOL!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO RESEARCH PAPERS OR ESSAYS. IT'S EASIER THAN BACK THEN, RIGHT?
Just answer the questions.

SO THEY SAY! AND THEY TELL US TO GET HELP FROM OUR PARENTS, RIGHT?
OH! WE ALSO GET HELP IN MAKING POSTERS OR DOING DIORAMAS AND STUFF.


THEN YOUR FATHER GETS ALL WORKED UP, AND DOES THE WHOLE THING! AM I RIGHT?
I WON AN AWARD BECAUSE OF THAT ONCE.
From a poster my parents made.

waffling



I HEAR THERE ARE CLOUDS ON THE HORIZON FOR BASEBALL'S POPULARITY.
AND IF SO, WON'T THAT MEAN THEY'LL CUT THE AMOUNT OF TIME THE GAMES OVERRUN SO THAT IT WON'T DELAY YOUR SHOWS AS MUCH!
Sounds like a perfect situation for you!

YUI NARUMI

strong point: ethics class
weak point: math
A runaway train of recklessness.
Lives a happy life of energy and impulse.
Unusually responsible when it comes to looking after others, she often pays visits to the Izumi household.
Habitually says, "That's a surprise!"

Lucky☆Star

episode 64
leaving your future to others

OHH!! I WORRY ABOUT THAT TOO!!
I wake up and the switch is turned off!
THINGS LIKE, "DID THE ALARM CLOCK RING?" OR, "DID SOMEBODY ELSE TURN IT OFF?" THINGS LIKE THAT.
NOD
NOD
NOD

● Comptiq, November 2005 issue

SO YOU SEE, I HAVE TO KEEP UP APPEAR-ANCES IN FRONT OF THE REST OF THE FAMILY...
So I have to make it look like a break!

GEEZ! NORMAL PEOPLE ACTUALLY SIT DOWN TO DO SERIOUS STUDYING!

WHAT? YOU HAVE AN IDEA THAT MIGHT HELP?
But I see where you're coming from, so...

THAT'S THE THING. ONCE I START READING, I CAN'T STOP!
THEN STOP, DO SOME STUDYING, AND READ MORE AFTER.
SORT OF. TAKE THE BOOK YOU WANT TO READ DUR-ING YOUR BREAKS AND READ A LITTLE OF IT.

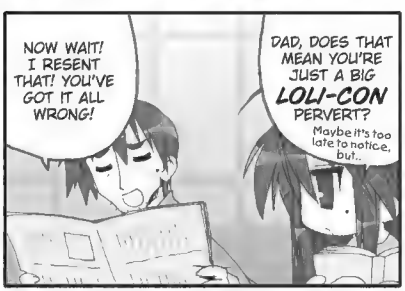
AH! NEE-SAN! COME FOR AN EVENING VISIT?
'SUP! KONATA! I'VE ARRIVED! LET THE FUN BEGIN!
I'm here to see your smiling face!

SHUMP
KONATA! UNCLE IS CALLING YOU!
OKAAY!

BY THE WAY, SHOULDN'T YOU BE STUDYING TOO?
You've been just hanging out since I got here!
YUTAKA STARTED ON HER HOME-WORK. LEND ME SOME MANGA TO READ!

BUT DOESN'T THAT MEAN THAT YOU TAKE WAY TOO MANY BREAKS?
OHH? REALLY?
AH, NO! IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL! YOU TEND TO COME IN WHEN I JUST HAPPEN TO BE TAKING A BREAK!
HEHN
HEHN

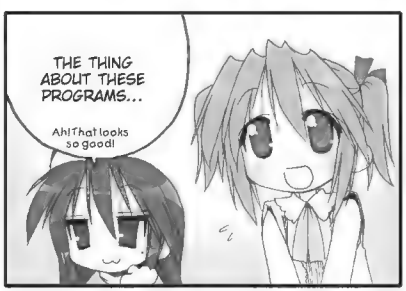
assertion


NOW WAIT! I RESENT THAT! YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!
DAD, DOES THAT MEAN YOU'RE JUST A BIG LOLI-CON PERVERT?
Maybe it's too late to notice, but...

YOU KNOW THAT DOESN'T MAKE YOU ANY LESS AWFUL, RIGHT?
And what do you mean by "characterstats"...?
A FATHER'S ASSERTION
I DON'T JUST LIKE YOUNG-LOOKING GIRLS! I LIKE ALL SORTS OF GIRLS! SO THE PROPER STATEMENT WOULD BE, I AM "ALSO" A BIG LOLI-CON PERVERT!
It really depends on the person's characterstats.

done for

Umph!
YEAH! THERE ABOUT TO SHOW THE PROGRAM, "SPECIAL COLLECTION: SWEETS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY"!
AH! YU-CHAN YOU LOVE THE SWEET STUFF TOO!
I'll bet Kagami and Tsukasa will watch it too!

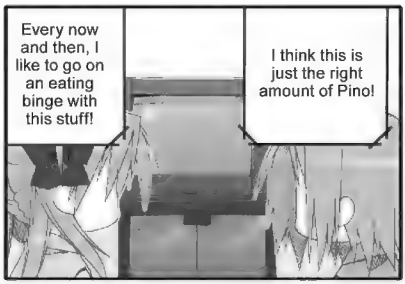


THAT ALWAYS HAPPENS, BUT I WATCH THEM ANYWAY!
I get caught up in it.
...IS THAT WHEN THEY SHOW THE BEST FOODS, THE ONLY RESTAURANTS THAT SERVE IT ARE SO FAR AWAY, YOU GET DEPRESSED!
I'm a Saitama person, so when they talk about places in Nagoya...
TOO BAD!

YUTAKA KOBAYAKAWA

strong point: japanese class
weak point: athletics
She's prone to sickness and rather weak, but she's been getting healthier since coming to Ryou-ou Academy.
Everybody has come to love her for her easy-to-get-along-with character and unguarded facial expressions.
She tends to do things without thinking.

episode 65
free advice



WHEN I WAS READING THOSE OLD FAIRYTALES, I ALWAYS WANTED TO EAT CANDY AND STUFF UNTIL I'D BE READY TO BURST!
I'm sure people who live in candy houses are always full!

I SEE WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, BUT IF WE EVER GOT OUR HANDS ON WHOLE LOTS OF THE THINGS WE LIKE, I GET THE FEELING WE'D LOSE MUCH OF OUR INTEREST.

● Shonen Ace, November 2005 issue

blank slate

THAT'S THE MOST SIMPLE-MINDED THOUGHT I HEARD ALL DAY!
WHEN YOU WATCH IT, DON'T YOU GET THE FEELING LIKE, "I COULD GET INTO TODAI TOO"?
If I studied like they did.

...IT WON'T WORK UNLESS YOU GET A WHOLE LOT OF THINGS TOGETHER LIKE A TEACHER ASSIGNED SPECIFICALLY TO GUIDE STUDENTS TO THAT GOAL, AND A SCHOOL WILLING TO ALLOW STUDENTS TO ABANDON ALL OTHER CLASSES IN FAVOR OF A SPECIAL CURRICULUM DEVOTED TO PASSING THAT ONE ENTRANCE EXAM!
Urrrgh!
IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT TO TRY TO GET INTO TODAI...
Stabbed with a blunt knife.

THEY'RE ALL AROUND! PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY CAN CHANGE THEIR LIFE BECAUSE THEY READ A MANGA OR WATCHED A DRAMA!
I SEE... MAYBE IT WOULDN'T WORK SO EASILY AFTER ALL...
Just stick with the normal methods, okay?

where is the grass greener?

I'VE BROUGHT ICE-CREAM FOR EVERY-BODY! I COMMAND YOU TO REACH IN AND TAKE WHATEVER LOOKS GOOD! HEH!
I'll be no help with the homework, after all.
ALL RIGHT!!

slow and steady

Well, that's unexpected!
Although it's only natural.
I THOUGHT ABOUT THAT... BUT THEN I THOUGHT I'D DO MY SUMMER HOMEWORK ALL AT ONCE IN THE SECOND HALF OF SUMMER VACATION, AND IT WAS REALLY HARD!

AT YOUR AGE, I CAN ONLY SAY, "IT'S ABOUT TIME!" YOU'RE A 3RD YEAR STUDENT AFTER ALL! ANYWAY, DON'T FORGET THIS FEELING AND JUST DO IT!
I thought that at first, I'd take it easy, doing a little bit at a time.

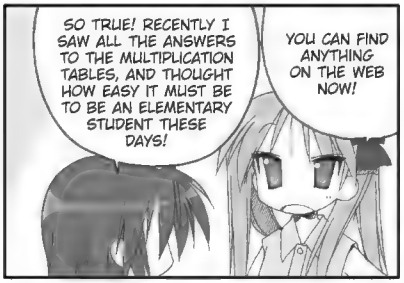
A week of it at least.
DO YOU INTEND TO SPEND YOUR ENTIRE SUMMER VACATION HERE?
And so, I'll be coming over tomorrow. So I'm counting on you!
And I'll be bringing presents!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!
Is that what you meant by "a little at a time"?

ready to take the leap, but...

I HEAR IT'S BETTER TO TAKE A SHORT NAP THAN TRY TO KEEP YOURSELF AWAKE.
I WONDER IF THERE'S A WAY TO KEEP THE SLEEPINESS FROM HITTING SO HARD!

inverse proportion

TRY LOOKING AT ONE OF THOSE SITES!
They probably have threads where people asked much the same question!
I'll let you borrow my computer.
A-ANYWAY, YU-CHAN, THERE ARE PLACES ON THE WEB THAT CAN GIVE YOU GOOD ADVICE ON THOSE THINGS.


SO TRUE! RECENTLY I SAW ALL THE ANSWERS TO THE MULTIPLICATION TABLES, AND THOUGHT HOW EASY IT MUST BE TO BE AN ELEMENTARY STUDENT THESE DAYS!
YOU CAN FIND ANYTHING ON THE WEB NOW!

I see it just looking at her.
ALONG WITH EXPANDING ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS, I GUESS THERE ARE ALSO SITES WITH THE GOAL OF CRANKING OUT USELESS HUMAN BEINGS, HUH?
?

free of advice

WHAT'S WRONG, YU-CHAN? YOU KNOW YOU CAN ASK YOUR SISTER AND HER FRIENDS ANYTHING!
HELLO! UM... CAN I ASK A QUESTION?
Yutaka-chan! I'm there!

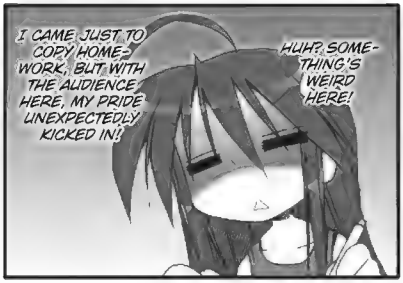
ONE OF MY FRIENDS FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL HAS A BOYFRIEND, AND SHE ASKED ME WHAT WOULD BE GOOD FOR HIS BIRTHDAY PRESENT. I WAS HOPING YOU COULD HELP!
Do you have any good advice I can pass on?
I don't know about these things!

MINAMI IWASAKI

strong point: athletics
weak point: none worth mentioning
The "silent type," good student.
She is so quiet, some people are afraid of her, but she isn't actually scary.
She's observant and knows how to take care of others.
Athletics isn't her only strong suit. She also excels at study, art, and other fields making her an all-around excellent young lady.

Lucky☆Star

episode 66
hang in there, girls



● Shonen Ace, December 2005 issue

light house

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IT ALREADY HAPPENED!
We did this last year, didn't we?
COME TO THINK OF IT, WHEN IS YOUR FAMILY SHRINE'S FESTIVAL, KAGAMI?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SIT WAITING FOR US! YOU CAN GO TO FESTIVALS NEAR YOU'RE FAMILY'S ANCESTRAL HOME YOURSELF!
They're all over, but.

THOSE PEOPLE ARE ALL OVER! THE ONES WHO GO TO OTHER FESTIVALS, BUT NEVER SHOW THEIR FACES AT THEIR OWN!
You're the type who never goes to see friends back in your hometown, right?
ANCESTRAL HOME... I WONDER WHEN THAT FESTIVAL WAS...?

indoors

I HEAR THAT MINAMI-SAN'S FAMILY HAS ONE, THOUGH.
MY FAMILY HAS NO CABINS.
MIYUKI, AREN'T YOU DOING THAT THIS YEAR?
IN MANGA, THE CHARACTERS ARE ALWAYS GOING TO SOME ISOLATED CABIN...
But we do travel.

IN MY FAMILY'S CASE, IT'S JUST TO ESCAPE THE HEAT. WE DON'T DO ANYTHING SPECIAL, IT'S SIMPLY A PLACE TO RELAX.
We read, and sometimes play tennis and stuff.
I'VE GOT A QUESTION. WHAT DO YOU DO IN A CABIN?

WHY IS IT THAT WHENEVER YOU USE "OTHER WORDS" IT ALWAYS COMES OUT SOUNDING TERRIBLE?
UM... IN OTHER WORDS, IT'S WHERE YOU BECOME A SHUT-IN!

COME TO MENTION IT, THERE WILL BE A FIREWORKS DISPLAY NEAR MY HOUSE TOMORROW.
I KNOW WE'VE GOT ENTRANCE EXAMS, BUT IT'S A WASTE SPENDING ALL OUR TIME ON STUDYING!

MM... MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S NICE TO TAKE A BREATHER.
THAT'S IT!! LET'S ALL GO HAVE FUN, JUST THIS ONCE!

MIN-- IWASAKI-SAN?
I HEAR IT'S A PRETTY FAMOUS DISPLAY, ISN'T IT?
It should be in your area.

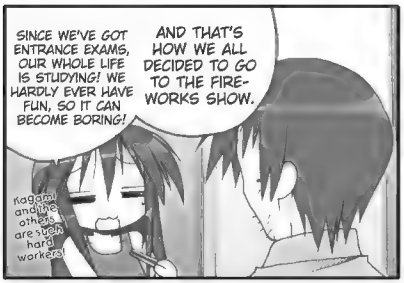
AWW!, ONCE YOU START CALLING SOMEBODY BY A PARTICULAR NAME, IT'S HARD TO CHANGE IT!
You get hung up on it!

BY THE WAY, MINAMI-SAN...

YEAH, MINAMI-CHAN, YOU JUST LOOK THE TYPE!
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT ATHLETICS, AREN'T YOU, MINAMI-CHAN?

AND YOU'RE GOOD AT STUDYING TOO, IWASAKI-SAN! I THINK THAT'S INCREDIBLE!

HUH?!
Did I say "Iwasaki san"?!


SINCE WE'VE GOT ENTRANCE EXAMS, OUR WHOLE LIFE IS STUDYING! WE HARDLY EVER HAVE FUN, SO IT CAN BECOME BORING!
AND THAT'S HOW WE ALL DECIDED TO GO TO THE FIRE-WORKS SHOW.
Kagami and the others are such hard workers!

I REMEMBER WHEN I WOULD FORCE KANATA TO GO ON LONG TRIPS JUST SO WE COULD HAVE GOOD MEMORIES TOGETHER.
We got scolded though.
I GUESS I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT. AND I THINK YOU SHOULD DO WHAT YOU FEEL IS BEST.
One's youth won't wait!

THEN YOU DON'T MIND IF I GET A BOY-FRIEND AND MAKE SOME MEMORIES TOO?

DAD, DON'T YOU SEE THE HY-POCRISY IN WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?
I ABSOLUTELY FORBID IT!!!
I will accept no "boyfriend" from you!!

ARE YOU SURE YUTAKA-CHAN WILL BE OKAY? She's just recovering from a cold, isn't she?
BUT IT'S KIND OF FAR AWAY, AND IF IT'S FAMOUS, IT'LL BE CROWDED, RIGHT?

People are always doing that!
NO! DON'T CHANGE YOUR PLANS ON ACCOUNT OF ME!
THEY SAY IT'LL BE REALLY HOT TOMORROW. YOU WANT TO SKIP IT AND GO NEXT TIME WE GET A CHANCE?

YU-TAKA?
I'LL BE RIGHT BY HER SIDE, AND I'M ON THE HEALTH COMMIT-TEE. SHE'LL BE FINE, RIGHT...

THANK YOU, MINAMI-CHAN!
TH-THAT'S TRUE, HUH?

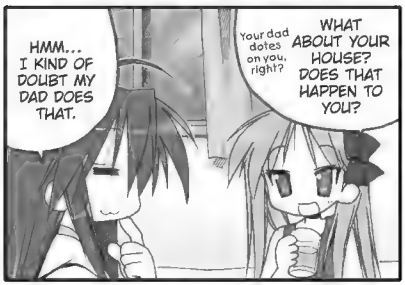
HIYORI TAMURA

strong point: art
weak point: english
An active creator-type otaku girl.
Has a bright personality, but she gets nervous, and that's her biggest failing.
She falls into a day-dream world at the slightest chance. One would call her a dreamer princess.
She's a classmate of Yutaka and Minami.

episode 67
brilliant colors

● Comptiq, December 2005 issue

OH, YEAH. I HEAR ABOUT THAT EVERY SO OFTEN.
MY PARENTS DON'T, BUT I HEAR THAT THERE ARE LOTS OF PARENTS WHO CHECK UP ON THE KIDS COMPUTERS AND CELL PHONES.


HMM... I KIND OF DOUBT MY DAD DOES THAT.
Your dad dotes on you, right?
WHAT ABOUT YOUR HOUSE? DOES THAT HAPPEN TO YOU?

THAT MAY BE PART OF IT, BUT...
OH, I GET IT! HE'S THE TYPE WHO DOESN'T WANT HIS DAUGHTER MAD AT HIM, HUH?
Now that you mention it, he seems the type!

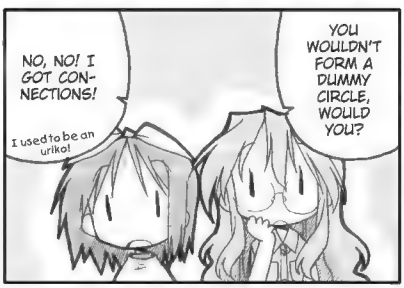
All kinds of stuff on there!
SO HE KNOWS HOW EMBARRASSED A PERSON CAN GET WHEN THEY LOOK AT SOMEBODY'S D-DRIVE.
...MY DAD ALSO USES THE COMPUTER A LOT.
"D Drive"...?

IT SURE IS! BUT I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THIS!
Causing all this trouble!
..... PRETTY!
YUTAKA IS NOT FEELING WELL, SO TWO PEOPLE TAKE A DIFFERENT ROUTE ...

IT WAS REALLY NICE, WASN'T IT?
THERE THEY ARE!

EH? WE DIDN'T GET BITTEN AT ALL.
SKRCH SKRCH
SO YOU TWO DIDN'T MIND ALL THE MOSQUITOES?

NAW! I THINK THE MOSQUITOES JUST WENT WHERE THE MOOD GUIDED THEM.
OH! I GUESS THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE PRONE TO BEING BITTEN AND PEOPLE WHO AREN'T!
How nice...



I know! Noth-ing! Noth-ing!
I LEARNED ALL THOSE WORDS FROM YOU!! UM... UH...
WHA --?! NO!!
YOU'RE BEEN HIDING THE FACT THAT YOU'RE A CLOSET OTAKU, HAVEN'T YOU?
You know all the jargon!

IF YOU CONSIDER EACH TO HAVE AN AVERAGE PRICE OF 500 YEN, I'D SAY IT ADDED UP TO ABOUT 40,000 OR 50,000 YEN.
HOW MUCH DID YOU SPEND?
You always were a free spender.

ABOUT ¥5 EACH, AND ABOUT ¥400 TO ¥500.

WHY WOULD I BE TALKING ABOUT THEM?!
I'm talking about one woman's waste of one woman's money!
SO YOU SAY, KAGAMI, BUT YOU KNOW IT'S HARD TO ARGUE WITH MARKET FORCES!
It costs a lot to print your own books!
AREN'T THERE ANY LIMITS TO HOW SOME PEOPLE WASTE MONEY?!

MISAO KUSAKABE

strong point: athletics
weak point: world history, math
A bright, uncomplicated, energetic girl.
Does only enough to get by, and doesn't sweat the details.
She's optimistic and finds fun in just about anything, but she hates to study.
She's Kagami's classmate.

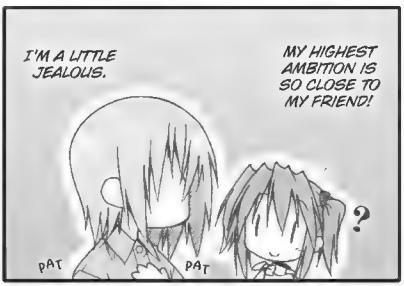
episode 68
the siblings equation

THEY SAY THAT THERE WILL BE A LOT OF SUMMER-LIKE WEATHER THIS YEAR.
SUMMER IS OVER, BUT IT'S STILL HOT!
TSUKASA TOO! SHE CAMPS OUT IN HER ROOM WITH THE AC GOING!
She just lazes about though
YU-CHAN CAN'T TAKE THE HEAT, SO SHE PUTS THE AC ON FULL BLAST IN THE LIVING ROOM, SHE HAS TO TAKE A LOT OF SICK DAYS OFF!
Heeey!
BUT DON'T MOST PEOPLE SAY THE KANJI FOR "RIVER"?
I CAN SEE YOUR FAMILY DOING THAT!
STILL, DAD AND I GO INTO HER ROOM TO SLEEP, AND WE MAKE THE KANJI FOR "LITTLE" AND SLEEP THERE!
YOUR FAMILY NEVER CHANGES, DOES IT?
Yutaka-chan's used to that, huh?
NOPE. DAD ALWAYS TAKES THE MIDDLE SPOT!

● Comptiq, December 2005 issue

konata's story once again

pandora's box



YOU'RE A LITTLE WEAK WILLED, AREN'T YOU?
MY ROUTINE UP TO NOW IS TO GET UP EARLY, RELAX BECAUSE I HAVE TIME, AND GO BACK TO SLEEP.
MUNCH
MUNCH

I DON'T THINK STUDYING WHILE RUBBING YOUR EYES WILL HELP YOUR GRADES MUCH...
SO IT'S PROBABLY BETTER IF I JUST STAY UP LATE AND DO MY BEST AT NIGHT, RIGHT?

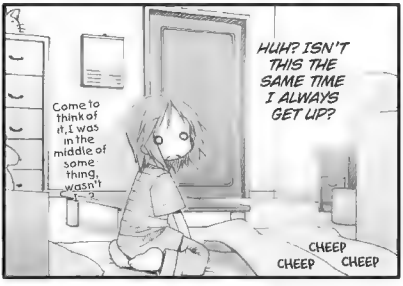
YEAH! THIS WILL DO THE TRICK!
That's Onee-chan for you!
WHY DON'T YOU GET YOURSELF A WAKEUP CALL? MOM AND DAD ARE ALWAYS UP EARLY!

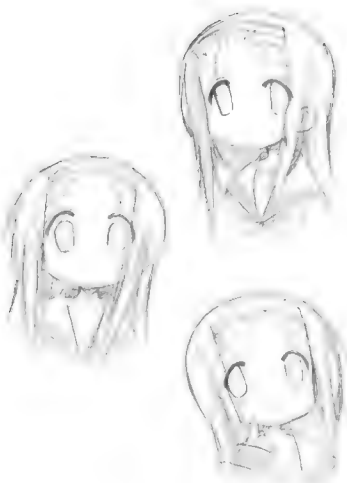
YOU DON'T REMEMBER?!
EHH?! I DON'T REMEMBER THAT HAPPENING!
ARGUE
I DID! YOU EVEN ANSWERED ME!
M-MOTHER!! I ASKED YOU TO WAKE ME UP!!
ARGUE
AWW!!

DOZE
DOZE

FOR SOME REASON I GET SLEEPY IN THE EVENINGS.
Is there any way to avoid that?

SHE'S RIGHT! I'LL GET UP EARLY AND GET RIGHT TO WORK!
Good for your health too!
THE BEST THING IS TO NOT FIGHT IT. GET TO SLEEP EARLY THEN GET UP EARLY THE NEXT MORNING.

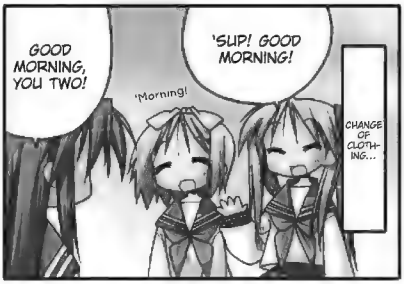

Come to think of it, I was in the middle of some thing, wasn't I...?
HUH? ISN'T THIS THE SAME TIME I ALWAYS GET UP?
CHEEP
CHEEP
CHEEP



AYANO MINEGISHI

strong point: Japanese class
weak point: math
A partner in Misao's universe.
She's always standing behind Misao supporting her.
She can always be found with Misao, so there's no hint of men in her life. Or so one would think, but they'd be wrong.
A classmate of Kagami's.

episode 69
small accomplishments.



WELL, THEY'RE A TOOL TO HELP ADJUST OUR FEELINGS!
Although it's wasted on people like you who just can't adjust!
I JUST WISH THEY'D LET US WEAR WHATEVER WE'D LIKE!
They're both assigned uniforms!
So true!
ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEN WE HAVE TO CHANGE TO SUMMER WEAR, I REALLY FEEL COLD!

● Comptiq, January 2006 issue

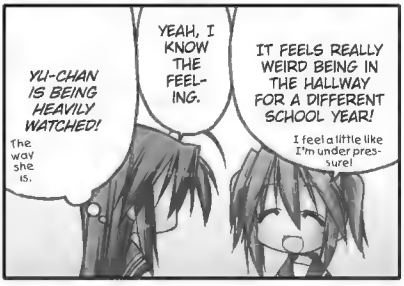
YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE UNDER EVERYBODY'S SCRUTINY.
IT'S MOSTLY JUST THE PERSON'S IMAGINATION, BUT GOING TO AN UPPERCLASSMEN'S HALL OR AN UNDERCLASSMEN'S HALL...

I don't like it!
I'M USED TO EVERYBODY LOOKING AT ME, BUT WHEN IT'S UPPERCLASSMEN, I FEEL A CERTAIN PRESSURE.

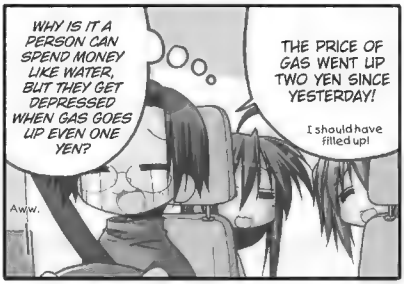
You do?
I HAPPEN TO LIKE ALL THE ATTENTION MYSELF.

ALTHOUGH I HARDLY EVER GET ANY ATTENTION AT ALL!
I'm short even for a first-year student!
Nobody thinks I'm in a higher grade!

AH! ONEE-SAN FORGOT TO BRING HER LUNCH!


YU-CHAN IS BEING HEAVILY WATCHED!
The way she is.
YEAH, I KNOW THE FEELING.
IT FEELS REALLY WEIRD BEING IN THE HALLWAY FOR A DIFFERENT SCHOOL YEAR!
I feel a little like I'm under pressure!

A matter of feelings


WHY IS IT A PERSON CAN SPEND MONEY LIKE WATER, BUT THEY GET DEPRESSED WHEN GAS GOES UP EVEN ONE YEN?
THE PRICE OF GAS WENT UP TWO YEN SINCE YESTERDAY!
I should have filled up!
Aww.

standard procedure

I WANT EVERYBODY TO THINK OF WHAT THEY'D LIKE TO DO!
IN OUR NEXT HOMEROOM PERIOD, WE HAVE TO DECIDE WHAT WE'LL DO DURING THE ARTS FESTIVAL!

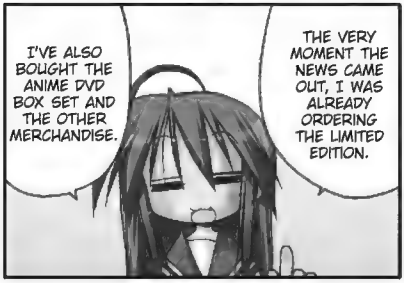
AH... NOW I SEE.
Your style of hard work, huh?
NOT REALLY. IT'S JUST THAT IT'S MIYUKI-SAN'S CLASS, SO...
If we get too serious it'll be boring, so we have to think of something fun!

PATRICIA MARTIN

strong point: english
weak point: japanese class
An otaku from overseas that came as a part of a student exchange.
Although her Japanese is very good, she only knows otaku Japanese, so she give off a slightly strange aura.
She is Yutaka and Minami's classmate

episode 70
firing up the brain cells

KAGAMI! YOUR INFO IS SO OUT OF DATE!
Not that I buy games but..
I HEAR IT'S JUST BECOME A GAME!
COME TO THINK OF IT, THAT BOOK I LENT YOU...


I'VE ALSO BOUGHT THE ANIME DVD BOX SET AND THE OTHER MERCHANDISE.
THE VERY MOMENT THE NEWS CAME OUT, I WAS ALREADY ORDERING THE LIMITED EDITION.

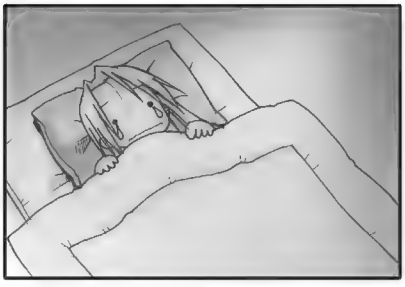
YOUR FAMILY HAS SCARY HOBBY ENERGY!
AND YUI-NEESAN BOUGHT A CAR JUST BECAUSE SOMEBODY MEN-TIONED IT.
They recommended it to her!
I sure was sur-prised!

● Comptiq, January 2006 issue

a weekend tragedy

THIS WEEKEND I THINK I'LL SPEND JUST A LITTLE TIME ON MY NET GAMES.
I'VE BEEN SO BUSY RECENTLY, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO HAVE ANY FUN!
PACHIK

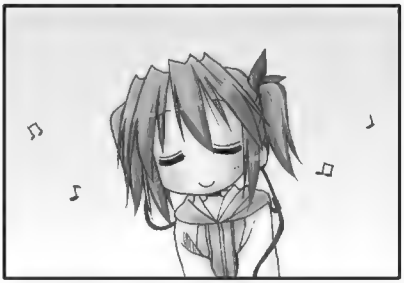
Maintenance Announcement
Due to unforeseen and as-yet unidentified technical problems our server has suffered some damage. We are presently performing maintenance on it.
We will attempt to inform you as soon as we finish addressing the difficulties. We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused our users. But please be patient with us as we do our best to fix the problem.
We extend to our customers and users all of our



real world champion

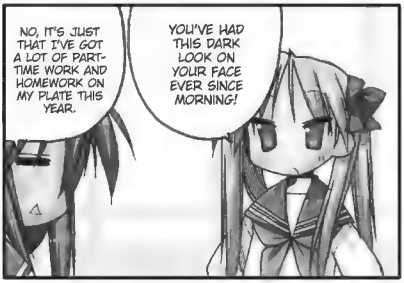
HM? OH, I GUESS SO.
Even though it's just an American thing.
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, THE WINNER OF THE MAJOR LEAGUE SERIES IS CALLED THE "WORLD CHAMPION."
The "Japan Series" made me think of it.

YEAH, SHE SURE GETS WORKED UP!
THEY HAVE NO RIGHT TO CLAIM THE "WORLD'S" TITLE UNTIL THEY PROVE THAT THEY CAN DEFEAT LOTTE!!
Just kidding!
AH HA HA HA
HA



EYAAH!!!
WOW! YOU'RE REALLY HAVING A LOT OF FUN SINGING, AREN'T YOU?

BWA~
~AAH


NO, IT'S JUST THAT I'VE GOT A LOT OF PART-TIME WORK AND HOMEWORK ON MY PLATE THIS YEAR.
YOU'VE HAD THIS DARK LOOK ON YOUR FACE EVER SINCE MORNING!

A
B
C
AND BECAUSE OF IT, GAME AFTER GAME HAS BEEN PILING UP UN-PLAYED.
Isn't it always like that?

DON'T ASK ME!!
I'm not qualified to make that decision!
They've added char acters and there's an event for it coming up!
AND JUST A LITTLE WHILE BACK, THEY PUT OUT A NEW, UPDATED AND IMPROVED VERSION OF A GAL GAME THAT'S STILL ON MY TO-PLAY STACK!
What'll do?!

SOUJIROU IZUMI

strong point: none to speak of
weak point: none to speak of
The "old block" from which the "chip" came off.
Anybody looking at him and Konata would conclude that he's her father.
To put it another way, he is what Konata would be after reaching her potential.
A very understanding father.

YUKARI TAKARA

strong point: none
weak point: none to speak of
The "old block" from which the "chip" came off.
Anybody looking at her would understand (?) that she is Miyuki's mother.
Her daughter's good grades are all a product of her scatterbrained educational example.
In a way, she is the educational goal Miyuki wants very much to avoid.

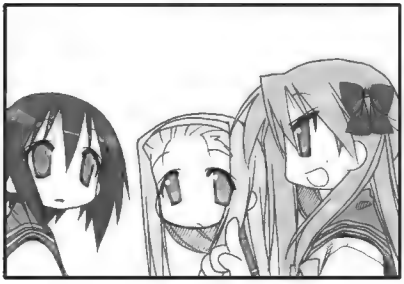
Lucky☆Star

episode 71
momentum

● Shonen Ace, January 2006 issue

WHAT ARE YOU, A LITTLE KID OR SOMETHING?
BOO

I ALSO REMEMBER WHEN WE WERE LITTLE, WE'D STIR AND KNEED YOGURT CALLING OURSELVES A BREAD FACTORY.



O-OH, SHUT UP!
BLUUSH
JUST TRY TO EXPLAIN IT WITHOUT GETTING EMBARRASSED! "Bread factory"?
HUH? SO WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?

PCHT
SHH

SSIP...

SSII
IIP

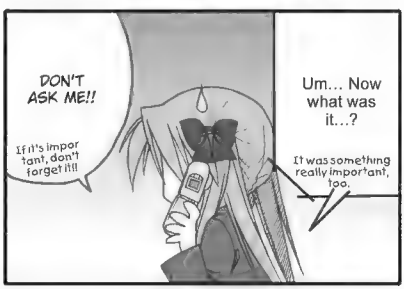
OH, YEAH. I REMEMBER WHEN WE USED TO DO THAT... IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!
SEE? IT'S JUST A POCKY STICK!

kindness

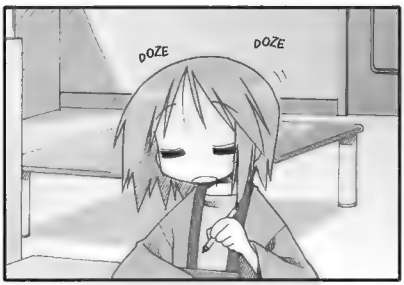
YEAH, SURE!
That little thing, right?
I'VE GOT SOME OTHER FRIENDS WHO WANT TO TRY IT TOO. CAN I HAVE IT BACK?
ABOUT THAT GAME I LOANED YOU IN THE FIRST TRIMESTER, KUSAKABE...

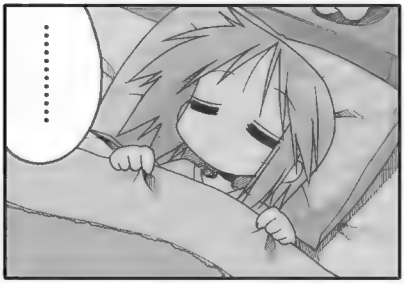
NO, IT'S NOT MY FAULT! THE "NATURAL LAW OF LENDER AMNESIA" IS ABSOLUTE!
It happens to everybody!
YOU DON'T BECAUSE YOU HAVE A MEMORY LIKE A SIEVE!
EVERYBODY HAS TIMES WHEN THEY CAN'T REMEMBER WHO LOANED THEM STUFF, HUH?

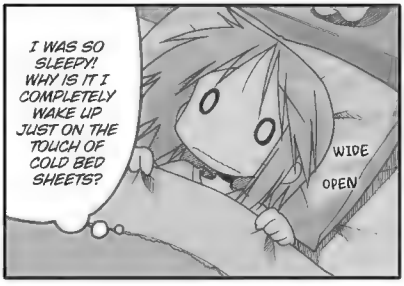
fly away



chilled







eyes wide

late-night battlefield

...IT LOOKS LIKE THEY HAVE A MILITARY-ACTION ANIME ON RIGHT NOW. BE SURE TO WATCH IT!
It's from a really popular series!
AND CONSIDERING THE THINGS THAT YOU LIKE...
I'm sure you'd love it!

Y-You mean you can?!
Can't you watch unscrambled TV programs without a decoder?
How many anime programs have I let go unwatched because of that?!

● Dragon Magazine, September 2005 issue

Lucky☆Star

episode 72
ideals and reality

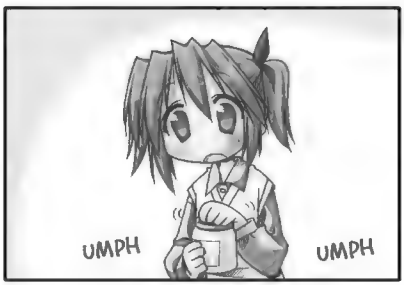
THIS IS THE SEASON WHERE BAKED SWEET POTATO TASTES REALLY GOOD!
STEAM
STEAM
BAKED SWEET POTATO...
I KNOW ALREADY, SO JUST DON'T SAY IT!
NO, I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY.
Have some?
NO, KAGAMI... LISTEN...
It's fattening!
YEAH, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL.
Heavy excuses
ONCE I MADE EYE CONTACT WITH THAT VENDER GUY...
...I just had to buy it, or I'd be a bad person!
BUT I CAN'T REALLY HELP IT, CAN I?
YOU REALLY DON'T MIND THE FACT THAT OTHERS HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, DO YOU?
THE MINUTE YOU MAKE EYE CONTACT WITH A SELLER AT COMIKET, YOU CAN'T JUST RETURN THE MANGA TO THE TABLE.
So you have to sort of avoid the people in the circles.

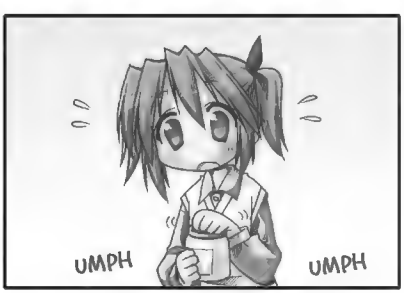
●Comptiq, February 2006 issue

not keeping up appearances?

AW, MAN! I CLOSED IT WITH THE SAME FORCE I ALWAYS USE!
IT WON'T OPEN NOW...!
WH-WHAT'LL I DO, ONEE-CHAN?
You're always in trouble, aren't you?

having troubles?





just prior to the explosion

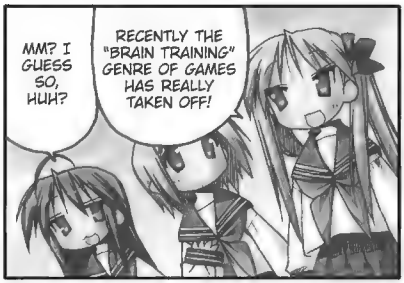
MAYBE IT'S JUST MY PRIDE SPEAKING, BUT THAT'S TOO MUCH LIKE LOS-ING!
NO! THAT WOULD BE WRONG!!
WE CAN USE THE SERRATED EDGE OR JUST CUT IT WITH A SCISSORS, RIGHT?
GRR
It's all right, really!

leave it to me

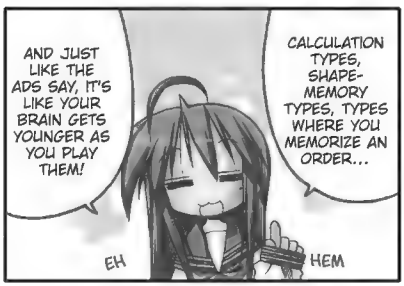
I LOOKED AT THE SUMMER JUMBO LOTTERY NUMBERS BUT NONE OF OUR TICKETS MATCHED.
You didn't think you'd win that easily, huh?

Too bad, huh?
I SENT OUT LOADS OF CONTEST ENTRY CARDS, BUT I DIDN'T WIN ON EVEN ONE OF THEM!

SIII


MM? I GUESS SO, HUH?
RECENTLY THE "BRAIN TRAINING" GENRE OF GAMES HAS REALLY TAKEN OFF!

I DO SOME OF THEM MYSELF.
REALLY? WHAT KIND OF GAME?


AND JUST LIKE THE ADS SAY, IT'S LIKE YOUR BRAIN GETS YOUNGER AS YOU PLAY THEM!
CALCULATION TYPES, SHAPE-MEMORY TYPES, TYPES WHERE YOU MEMORIZE AN ORDER...
EH
HEM

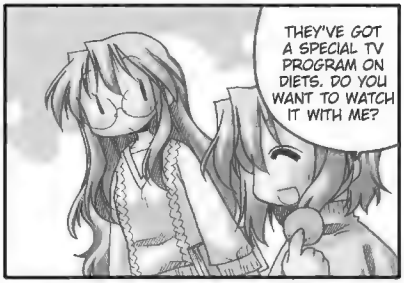
DON'T FIND FAULT IN MY GAMES!
...WE'LL GO BACK TO HAVING UNDEVELOPED MINDS!
AT OUR AGE, IF OUR BRAIN GETS ANY YOUNG-ER...
They'll get worse!

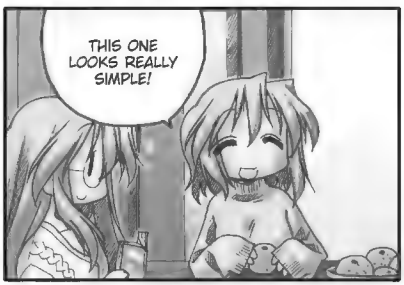
UGH! WHEN YOU DON'T SIGN ON FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS, AND THE MAIL SURE BUILDS UP!

NEE-SAN, YOU SAY SOME CRUEL THINGS WITH A NORMAL FACE.
Of course I get mail!
YOU SURE DO HAVE A LOT OF E-MAIL! YOU DON'T LOOK THE TYPE!

PLEASE DON'T ADMIT YOUR CRIMES TO YOUR POLICE OFFICER ONEE-SAN.
I ENTER CONTESTS AND REPLY TO WEBSITES, SO 90% OF MY MAIL IS SPAM.

THEY REALLY DO!
ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY REALLY COME UP WITH SOME INTERESTING SUBJECT LINES ON THOSE E-MAIL!


THEY'VE GOT A SPECIAL TV PROGRAM ON DIETS. DO YOU WANT TO WATCH IT WITH ME?


THIS ONE LOOKS REALLY SIMPLE!

HERE SURE ARE A LOT DIFFERENT KINDS!
That's true
SPECIAL PRESENTATION...

AW! DIDN'T I TELL YOU NOT TO TEASE ME!
UM, MOTHER... WATCHING A PROGRAM DOESN'T CONSTITUTE AN ACTUAL DIET.
LOOK, LOOK! THIS ONE LOOKS GOOD!
Welcome back, by the way.

YOU NEVER HOLD BACK WHEN SNEEZING, DO YOU?
AAA-CHOO!!
Cover that with your hands!

BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER SEEN "AH-CHOO" PLAYED OUT IN THE REAL WORLD.
AHH AHH
NOPE! I JUST CAN'T HOLD BACK WHEN SNEEZING, THAT'S ALL.

Choo!

QUIT TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT.
Just because I can't hold back!
Eh?!
THERE'S SOMETHING INHERENTLY UNFAIR ABOUT CUTE SNEEZES!
WHY DOES THERE HAVE TO BE INDIVIDUAL VARIATIONS ON SNEEZES?

conditions

I DON'T SEE YOU LISTENING TO CDS VERY OFTEN. WHAT ARE YOU LISTENING TO?
REALLY? BUT WITH NO PICTURES, CAN YOU STILL UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON THROUGH JUST THE VOICES?
AH! KAGAMI! THIS IS A DRAMA CD FROM A FAVORITE MANGA OF MINE!
IT'S KIND OF FUN TO IMAGINE THE SCENERY AND CHARACTER'S FACIAL EXPRESSIONS!
Voice actors are really good!
BY LISTENING TO THE DIALOG AND NARRATION...
OH, YEAH? NOW LET'S RECALL WHAT YOU SAID WHEN I RECOMMENDED LIGHT NOVELS TO YOU, SHALL WE?
"It's a pain trying to imagine that stuff!"
As I recall, you said

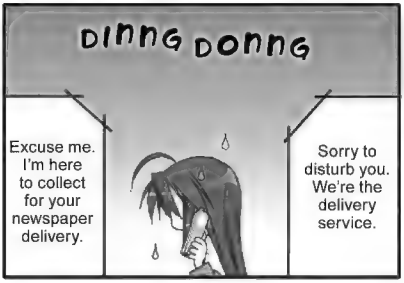
If that's your reaction, then read lots of light novels and start enjoying them!

● From Dragon Magazine, October 2005 issue

Lucky☆Star

episode 73
blind to inconveniences

I GUESS I REALLY HAVE TO START MEMORIZ-ING.
Is it really today?!
OH, NO! THIS TIME I REALLY OVERDID THE GAM-ING!
JUST BEFORE THE TEST...



● Shonen Ace, February 2006 issue

AH!

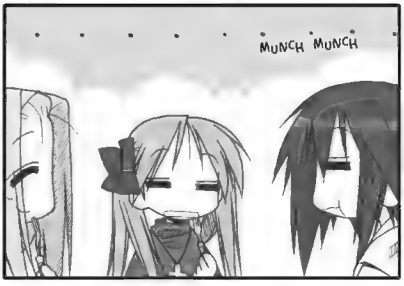
WHAA!! AND I REALLY LOVE THIS KIND OF MEATBALL!
It's too sad!

WHAT ABOUT THE THREE SECOND RULE?
WHISPER
TWIK

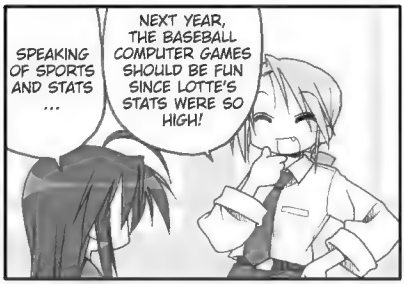
WELL... CONSIDERING THE PRESENT CONDITIONS, I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D LET IT RIDE.
Good thing too!
GRIN
GRIN

AH!

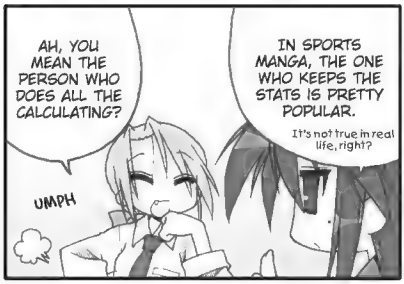
HUP
CHOMP


MUNCH MUNCH

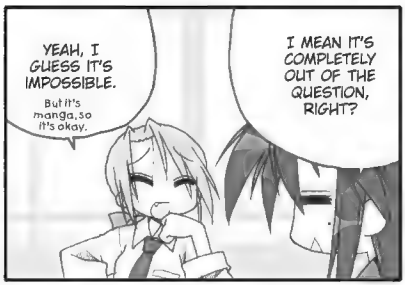
I DIDN'T SAY A WORD!
Y-YOU KNOW! THE THREE-SECOND RULE! THE THREE-SECOND RULE!
So no problem!
If you have to make excuses, then don't do it in the first place!


SPEAKING OF SPORTS AND STATS ...
NEXT YEAR, THE BASEBALL COMPUTER GAMES SHOULD BE FUN SINCE LOTTE'S STATS WERE SO HIGH!

A MECHA ANIME I WAS RESERV-ING FOR A SPECIAL OCCASION!
'SUP! WHAT ARE YOU WATCHING?
Come on in!


AH, YOU MEAN THE PERSON WHO DOES ALL THE CALCULATING?
UMPH
IN SPORTS MANGA, THE ONE WHO KEEPS THE STATS IS PRETTY POPULAR.
It's not true in real life, right?

ACTUALLY, I'M NOT ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN MECHA.
I watch a lot of it because of Dad though
HMM. YOU STILL LOVE THAT STUFF. YOU NEVER CHANGE, HUH?


YEAH, I GUESS IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
But it's manga, so it's okay.
I MEAN IT'S COMPLETELY OUT OF THE QUESTION, RIGHT?

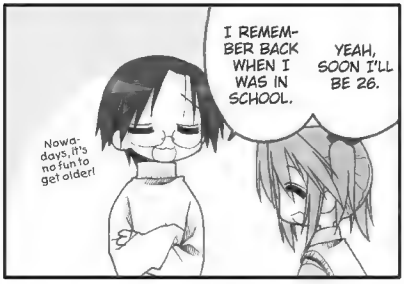
HUH? THEN WHY WATCH IT AT ALL?
If mecha doesn't appeal to you?

DOESN'T HAPPEN!
Maybe Miyuki-san could do it!
BUT WOULDN'T THAT MAKE THE KIDS WHO GREW UP LOVING THAT STUFF AND TRYING TO BE LIKE THOSE PEOPLE REALLY FRUSTRATED?

THEN SHOULD THEY REALLY BE CALLING IT MECHA ANIME?
It isn't just mecha any more!
SINCE THEY'RE TRYING TO REACH A WIDER AUDIENCE, THE MORE RECENT MECHA ANIME WILL PRETTY MUCH ALWAYS INCLUDE A CUTE GIRL OR GOOD-LOOKING GUYS.

job is becoming her personality

long in coming



GONNNG
There's the police over there!
It's the police!
YOUR MOOD WOULD BE MUCH BETTER IF YOU DIDN'T DO THINGS YOU'D FEEL GUILTY ABOUT.
AND THE OLDER I GET, THE MORE PEOPLE TRY TO AVOID ME!
I'm not as scary as all that!!

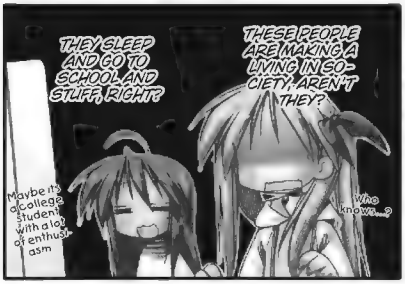
I CAN'T SEEM TO GET TO SLEEP. WHY DON'T I READ A BOOK UNTIL I FEEL SLEEPY?
This book just came out too!
Let's get started!
PHEW...
SLAKK
CHEEP CHEEP
I CAN'T FEEL SLEEPY NOW! THE SUN IS COMING UP.
But right about now, I'm feeling tired and exhausted!
SIGH

● From Dragon Magazine, November 2005 issue

episode 74
lonely girl

AH... AND IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE GOT ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED RIGHT HERE.
I'M STUCK LOOKING FOR A KEY POINT, AND I CAN'T GET ANYWHERE IN THE GAME!
And I'm too busy with studies to play much anyway
KLIK KLIK

I THINK IT'S EVERYTHING NECESSARY TO GET THROUGH THE WHOLE GAME,
Nowadays the speed at which information goes onto the net is amazing
That isn't possible!
EH? BUT IT'S ONLY BEEN A FEW DAYS SINCE THE GAME CAME OUT!

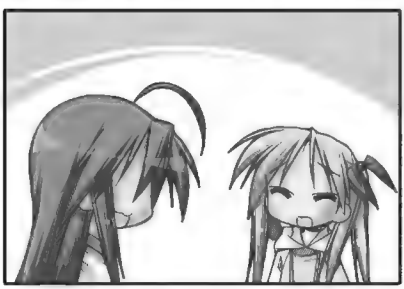

THEY SLEEP AND GO TO SCHOOL AND STUFF, RIGHT?
THESE PEOPLE ARE MAKING A LIVING IN SOCIETY, AREN'T THEY?
Maybe it's a college student with a lot of enthusiasm
Who knows...?

● Comptiq, March 2006 issue

that type of attitude

I BOUGHT THE "ANIMAL FOREST" THAT EVERYBODY'S BEEN TALKING ABOUT.
A-AND SO... JUST AS I THOUGHT I WAS ABOUT TO USE A COM-MUNICATION TOOL...
And that it's a country-wide network and stuff.
They say you can talk to people

YOUR HOUSE DIDN'T HAVE THE RIGHT ADAPTORS, SO YOU COULDN'T DO IT. SOME-THING LIKE THAT?
YOU DIDN'T HAVE WIRELESS LAN. YOU DIDN'T HAVE THE XP OS...
SO WHEN I DID THAT...
HEH HEH



big room

I REMEMBERED THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO SIGN ON JUST LIKE NORMAL BACK AT THE EVENT, SO I INSTALLED MINE LIKE YOU DID WITHOUT CHECKING THE MANUAL...
I BOUGHT A DS A LITTLE WHILE BACK...
I wanted to do some brain training.

SO FOR A WHILE, I WAS JUST WRITING MESSAGES ALL BY MYSELF!
It was only later that I read the manual and understood.
I WAITED UNTIL LATE IN THE NIGHT, AND STILL NOBODY WAS SIGNING ON!
BUT EVEN THOUGH I SIGNED ON, NOBODY WAS ON THE NET-WORK!
Or, "Is anybody out there ?"
Like, "Hellloo, helloo, hello.."

when you're past twenty

SOME REALLY LITTLE KIDS WERE WITH THEIR FATHER WHILE HE PLAYED.
COME TO THINK OF IT, I TOOK A PEEK INSIDE A GAME CENTER ON THE WAY HOME A WHILE BACK.
Speaking of "sleeping child."

HEY, SENSEI! WHAT WAS YOUR POINT?!
Where did the years go?
ONCE YOU'RE AN ADULT, 10 YEARS PASSES SO QUICKLY, IZUMI!
TEN YEARS AGO...
Now that I come to realize it.

grow big and strong

OH, NO! I'M ATTACKED FROM A FLANK I FORGOT TO DEFEND!
And I haven't grown up very well!
THIS IS HOW I TURNED OUT, AND I ALWAYS GOT PLENTY OF SLEEP! DURING CLASS AND SUCH!
Aaaah!!

pavlov

REALLY? YOU THINK I SHOULD?
Maybe I will!
HERE. IT'S A BOOK THAT EVERY-ONE SAYS IS REALLY INTER-ESTING! WANT TO READ IT?
DOZE
DOZE
THEY'RE ALL AROUND, RIGHT? JUST GIVE THEM SOME WORDS WITHOUT PICTURES, AND THEY GO RIGHT TO SLEEP.
AH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! NO SWEAT.
It's interesting, I think..
AH!! SORRY! I'LL READ IT AS FAST AS I CAN!
GASP

● **From Dragon Magazine, December 2005 issue**

Lucky☆Star

episode 75
voice of the heart

NOR-MALLY TRUE.
Nobody'd understand me if I did.
BUT COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU DON'T USE THAT MUCH JARGON CONSIDERING HOW DEEP YOU ARE INTO IT.

● Comptiq, March 2006 issue

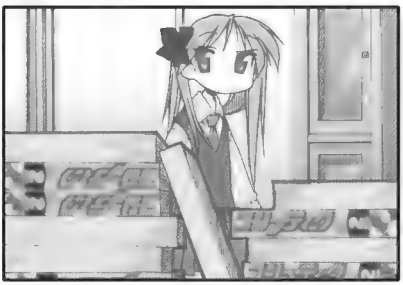
sense of value

DEPENDING ON THE CREATOR, A SINGLE SIGNBOARD CAN SELL FOR UP TO SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND YEN!
At an auction!
AND THEY DON'T JUST DROP INTO YOUR HANDS EVERY DAY! TAKE AUTOGRAPHS FOR INSTANCE...

SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS.

WAIT... THE TWO ARE COMPARABLE... HOW?!
I don't know much about it myself, but
IT'S LIKE WHEN SOMEBODY PAYS SEVERAL HUNDRED-THOUSAND YEN FOR ANOTHER ARTIST'S COPY OF SOME OBSCURE ART PIECE.

added value

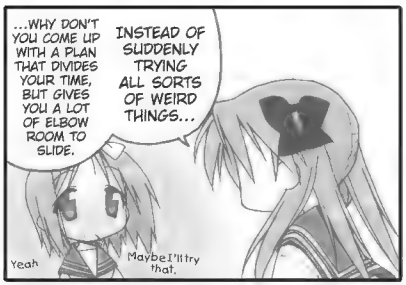


WELL THE MAGAZINE HAD A CONTEST WHERE YOU CAN GET ONE WITH A CREATOR'S SIGNATURE ON IT. I THOUGHT I'D ENTER IT.
YOU REMEMBER BACK WHEN YOU SAID YOU WANTED A DS FOR YOURSELF?

YOU DON'T GET IT, DO YOU? IT'S A MATTER OF THE ROMANTIC IDEAL OF TRYING FOR A SIGNED MACHINE!
YOU DON'T KNOW IF YOU'LL WIN WITH EVEN THIS MANY ENTRIES.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO BUY ALL THOSE MAGAZINES, WOULDN'T IT MAKE MORE SENSE TO BUY THE MACHINE?

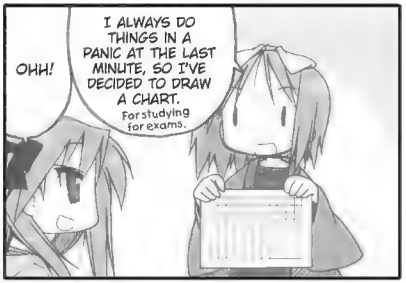
put out the fires you can put out

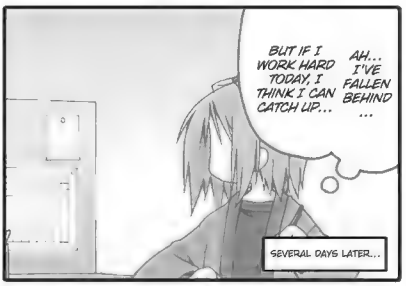
I REALIZED THAT IF I GET EVEN A LITTLE BEHIND, I SOON GET WAY BEHIND! THAT ALWAYS MAKES ME EVEN MORE DISTRACTED THAN I WOULD HAVE BEEN OTHERWISE.

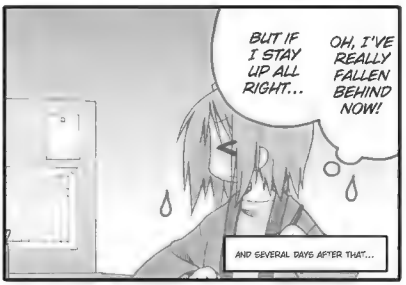

...WHY DON'T YOU COME UP WITH A PLAN THAT DIVIDES YOUR TIME, BUT GIVES YOU A LOT OF ELBOW ROOM TO SLIDE.
INSTEAD OF SUDDENLY TRYING ALL SORTS OF WEIRD THINGS...
Yeah
Maybe I'll try that.

YOU GUYS ARE JUST WEAK WILLED!
WHEN YOU MAKE A PLAN WITH A LOT OF ROOM IN IT, YOU GET COMPLACENT, AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, YOU'RE BEHIND! SO YOU WIND UP LIVING LIFE LATE ON EVERYTHING AGAIN!
Oh, yeah.

in a way, just as planned







PEOPLE WHO DON'T USUALLY LIVE BY CHARTS FIND THEIR LIVES GOING ON EXACTLY AS IT ALWAYS HAS, HUH?
AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.
sniff sniff

KUROI-SENSEI!
Whaah!

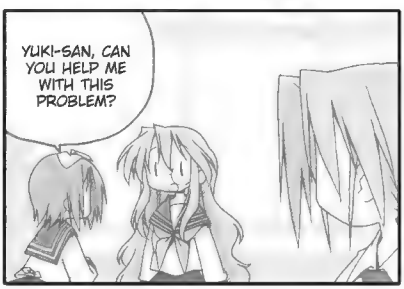
THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE BEEN HOPING TO ASK.
PO
OHH! IZUMI, WHAT IS IT?

WELL, THERE'S THIS RARE ITEM IN THE GAME I'M PLAYING NOW, AND...
WHAT IS IT? ASK ME ANYTHING!
Oh, you students and your questions!

THAT ISN'T THE TYPE OF QUES-TION I'M HERE FOR!!
UM... HUH? SENSEI?

OKAY, TAKE CARE, EVERY-BODY!
DINNG DONNG DINNG DONN
AFTER SCHOOL ...

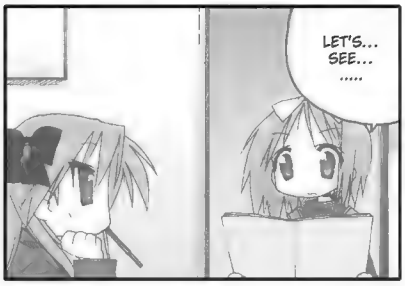
WHAT'S THE IMPERIAL ERA NAME OF THE TIME THAT THIS TAKES PLACE?
MIYUKI-SAN, SORRY!
Help me out?

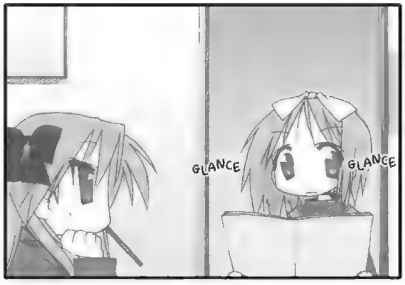

YUKI-SAN, CAN YOU HELP ME WITH THIS PROBLEM?

GRRRRRR
WHY DON'T YOU ASK A TEACHER TO TEACH YOU FOR A CHANGE!!
LISTEN TO YOUR-SELVES, YELLING TAKARA! TAKARA!
Don't you trust me?!

tv commentary is too shallow

O-OKAY ...
TSUKASA, I DON'T MIND YOU READING MANGA, BUT READ A NEWSPAPER EVERY NOW AND AGAIN TO FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE WORLD!
Yeah, yeah





I KIND OF THOUGHT IT WOULD TURN OUT THAT WAY.
For Tsukasa.
I-IT'S HARD READING NEWSPA-PERS!
Can I really read it?
With all the columns, I don't know what to read!

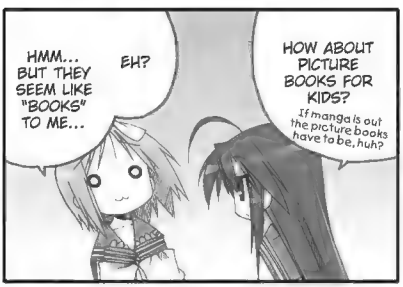
the vertical society

...HE STARTED SPEAKING IN POLITE JAPANESE! IT WAS FUNNY!
YEAH, THE MOMENT HE REALIZED I WAS OLDER...
He's so cute!
So what did you want?
Heh heh heh

bookies

I GUESS MANGA WOULDN'T, HUH?
AND THEY SAID THAT MANGA DOESN'T COUNT. IT'S ONLY ABOUT THE BOOKS.
THEY WERE TALKING ON TV ABOUT THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF BOOKS A JAPANESE PERSON READS IN AN YEAR...

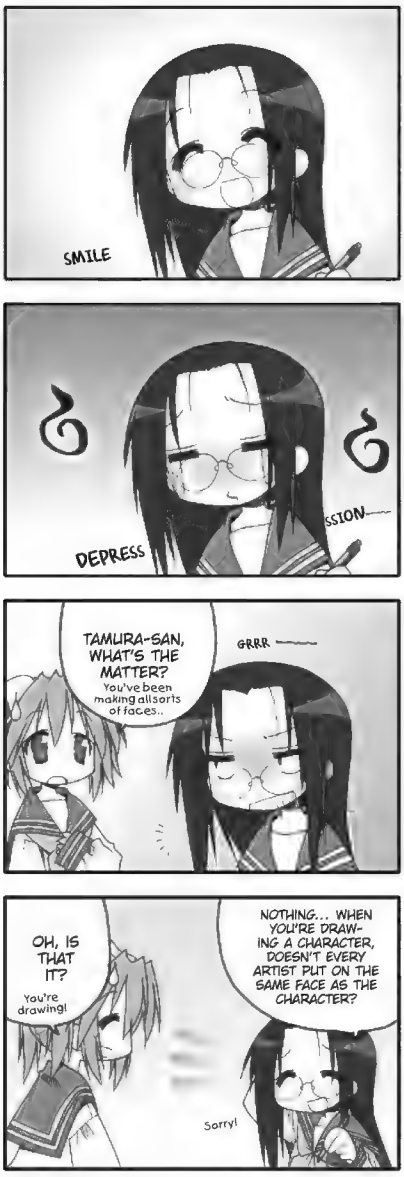
I THINK LIGHT NOVELS ARE PROBABLY OKAY...
If you talk to a mundane about light novels, they give you a superior snigger.
I WONDER IF LIGHT NOVELS COUNT?



U-UM...
SO WHAT CONSTITUTES A "NORMAL BOOK" ANYWAY?
AND ADVENTURE BOOKS AIMED AT YOUNGER AUDIENCES. IF YOU ASKED A MUNDANE IF HARRY POTTER IS A REGULAR BOOK, THEY'D PROBABLY NOD THEIR HEADS YES.

● **Dragon Magazine, January 2006 issue**

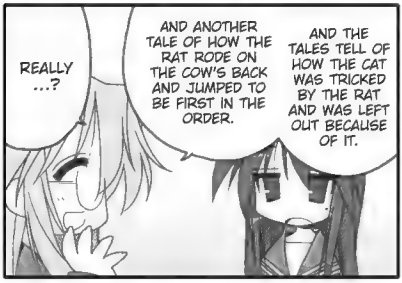
episode 76
the instant of change



● Shonen Ace, March 2006 issue

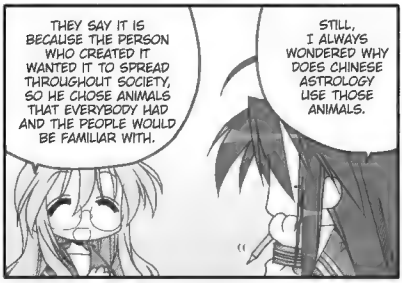
tacked on??

...AND THEY CHOSE THE "LEADER FOR EACH YEAR" ACCORDING TO THE ORDER THAT THE ANIMALS ARRIVED.
IT SEEMS THAT THE GODS ASKED THE ANIMALS TO COME MAKE THEIR NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS...


REALLY ...?
AND ANOTHER TALE OF HOW THE RAT RODE ON THE COW'S BACK AND JUMPED TO BE FIRST IN THE ORDER.
AND THE TALES TELL OF HOW THE CAT WAS TRICKED BY THE RAT AND WAS LEFT OUT BECAUSE OF IT.

WELL, BEFORE ANY OF THE ORDER OF THE ANIMALS WAS ESTABLISHED, THE MAKERS WOULD HAVE STARTED WITH CHINESE ASTROLOGY RELATING TO HOW THE COMPASS DIRECTIONS WERE NAMED.
BUT ASIDE FROM THE RAT AND COW, IT'S LIKE THE ORDER WAS CHOSEN REALLY RANDOMLY, DON'T YOU THINK?
Are there any other stories?
Putting aside the fairytale elements for a moment..

hard


THEY SAY IT IS BECAUSE THE PERSON WHO CREATED IT WANTED IT TO SPREAD THROUGHOUT SOCIETY, SO HE CHOSE ANIMALS THAT EVERYBODY HAD AND THE PEOPLE WOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH.
STILL, I ALWAYS WONDERED WHY DOES CHINESE ASTROLOGY USE THOSE ANIMALS.

ISN'T THERE A "ONE OF THESE THINGS IS NOT LIKE THE OTHER" MIXED IN THERE?
I see less "love" and more "fear"!
We're not talking middle ages fantasy here, right?

YOU HAVE NO GOALS, SO YOU ESPECIALLY HAVE NO RIGHT TO SAY THAT!
I especially don't want to study math and science!
IF I'M GOING TO WRACK MY BRAINS, IT SHOULD AT LEAST BE ON SUBJECTS THAT I WANT TO STUDY!
I'LL JUST BE COMPLETELY WORTHLESS WHEN I HAVE TO ENTER SOCIETY!

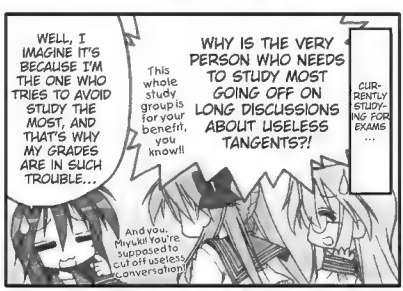
YOU WENT TO A GAME CENTER RECENTLY AND PLAYED A QUIZ GAME WITH ALL SORTS OF GENRES, RIGHT?
WHY DON'T YOU JUST THINK OF THIS STUDYING AS PRACTICE FOR THAT?

WHAT'S WITH ME? I HEAR THAT, AND I SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE STUDYING.
It's like your words have magic power, Kagami!
PAAAAA

I SEE... I GUESS THERE WAS AN ORIGIN FOR THAT STUFF TOO.
Normally nobody would even think of it.

BY THE WAY, ABOUT THAT CAT WHO WAS LEFT OUT...

WAIT! HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!! BEFORE YOU GET INTO THAT, I HAVE SOMETHING THAT NEEDS TO BE SAID!


WELL, I IMAGINE IT'S BECAUSE I'M THE ONE WHO TRIES TO AVOID STUDY THE MOST, AND THAT'S WHY MY GRADES ARE IN SUCH TROUBLE...
This whole study group is for your benefit, you know!!
WHY IS THE VERY PERSON WHO NEEDS TO STUDY MOST GOING OFF ON LONG DISCUSSIONS ABOUT USELESS TANGENTS?!
CURRENTLY STUDYING FOR EXAMS ...
And you, Miyuki! You're supposed to cut off useless conversation!

a casual shock

You can get it back before you head home!
HEY!! NOW YOU'RE GETTING TAKARA INVOLVED IN THIS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
In the library, even!
HEAD THWAK
FOREHEAD FLICK
I'm so sorry!!
W-Why the double slap dard...?

battle mode

I THINK WE'LL BE OUT OF CONTACT WITH HER FOR A WHILE.
SHE JUST ENTERED HER OWN WORLD, RIGHT...?
YOU SAW IT TOO?
H-HUH? SOMETHING JUST APPEARED?
...
Pang Pang Pang...
Pang Pang Pang...

meow meow, hiss hiss

AND HIIRAGI-CHAN RESPONDING WITH, "QUIT BOTHERING ME WITH QUESTIONS WHILE I'M READING!" IT'S LIKE THE VOLTAGE IN THE ROOM IS RISING!
I SENSE MISA-CHAN SAYING, "DON'T ANSWER WITH YOUR DUMB, 'MMM'S!"
What'll I do?!

● **Dragon Magazine, February 2006 issue**

Sorry! My fault! Don't you phase out everything else when you're reading too?
Ayano, Hiiragi's being such a cold fish!
I do the same thing when I'm watching TV too.

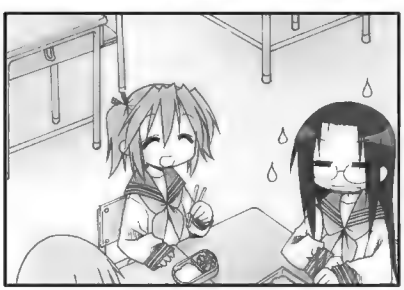
Lucky☆Star

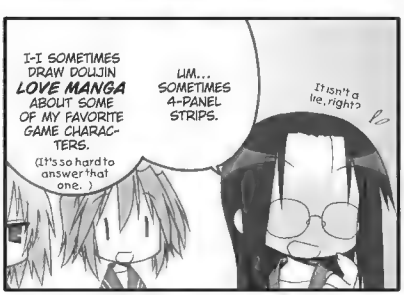
episode 77
desperate

● Shonen Ace, April 2006 issue

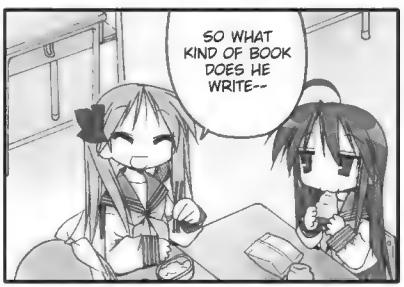
REALLY, TAMURA? YOU DRAW MANGA?
Mainly, it's just doujin stuff.

WHAT KIND OF MANGA DO YOU DRAW?




I-I SOMETIMES DRAW DOUJIN LOVE MANGA ABOUT SOME OF MY FAVORITE GAME CHARACTERS.
(It's so hard to answer that one.)
UM... SOMETIMES 4-PANEL STRIPS.
It isn't a lie, right?

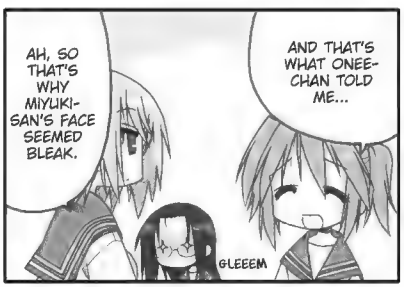
OH, SO YOUR FATHER IS AN AUTHOR!
I thought he was at home more than normal


SO WHAT KIND OF BOOK DOES HE WRITE--

AH!

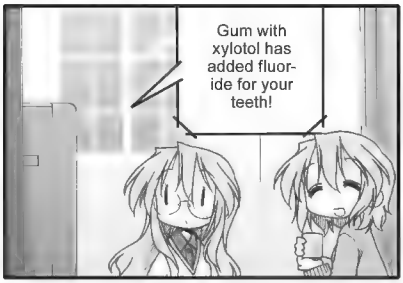
I-I DIDN'T SAY A WORD!
RELAX! IT ISN'T THAT KIND OF BOOK.
Don't worry about embarrassing me.
GRIN GRIN

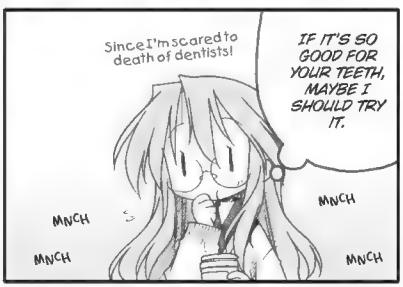
AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED, SO MIYUKI ENDED UP CRYING TODAY.
Is that right?
She was so Moe!

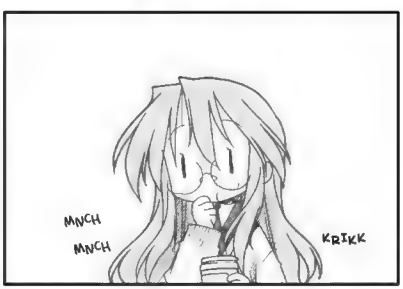

AH, SO THAT'S WHY MIYUKI-SAN'S FACE SEEMED BLEAK.
AND THAT'S WHAT ONEE-CHAN TOLD ME...
GLEEEM

.....
IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE HARD ON MIYUKI-SAN, BUT...
SWAY
SWAY

I AM SO USING THAT STORY IDEA!!!
KLNCH
Sorry! But I have writers block.


Gum with xylotol has added fluor-ide for your teeth!


Since I'm scared to death of dentists!
IF IT'S SO GOOD FOR YOUR TEETH, MAYBE I SHOULD TRY IT.
MNCH
MNCH
MNCH
MNCH


MNCH
MNCH
KRIKK

MIYUKI-SAN'S ADMIRABLE-BUT-UNLUCKY MOE!
...WHEN FILLING SUDDENLY CAME OUT, AND I WAS FORCED TO GO TO THE DENTIST!
I WAS CHEW-ING GUM BE-CAUSE IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE GOOD FOR MY TEETH...
SNIFF
There, there

PINNNG
AH! NOW THAT'S A GOOD IDEA FOR A MANGA PLOT!

Ah I can just imagine it now.
AHHHHH
THE MINUTE I'M OUT OF THE BATH, I'M WRITING IT DOWN!

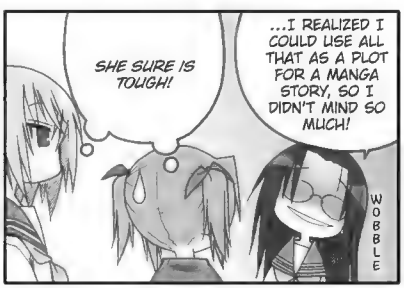
IT WAS A GOOD PLOT! I'M CERTAIN IT WOULD HAVE MADE A GREAT MANGA!!
If I don't write it down..
A-AAH?! WHAT IS IT?! I CAN'T REMEMBER!!
it always turns out this way!

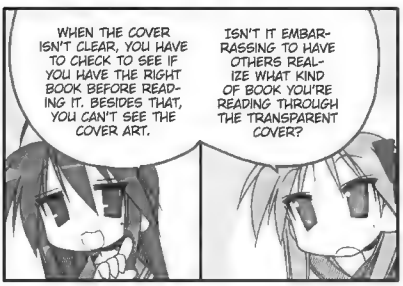
WOW, THAT'S AMAZING!
I WAS THINKING THAT IT WAS A LUCKY DAY EVER SINCE I WON 3000 YEN* IN THE LOTTERY TODAY!
It was Summer, and I just wanted to try out the lottery.

ABOUT ¥30.

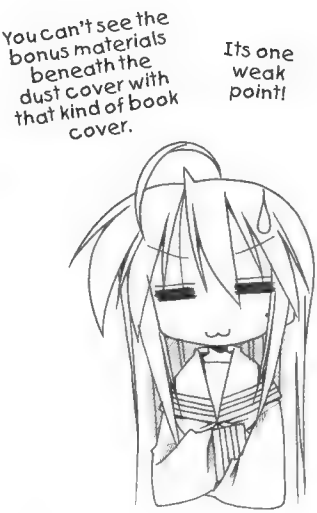
YOUR LIFE IS STRANGER THAN FICTION.
Isn't it?
IT ALL DISAPPEARED LIKE FATE WANTED ITS MONEY BACK!
AND WHEN IT BLEW, MY BENTO SPILLED ALL OVER THE ROAD, SO I HAD TO BUY FOOD AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE.
I GOT A FLAT TIRE ON MY BICYCLE, AND REPAIRING IT COSTS MONEY!
3000 yen.
Aww!
SLUMP

BUT AFTER ALL THAT...


SHE SURE IS TOUGH!
...I REALIZED I COULD USE ALL THAT AS A PLOT FOR A MANGA STORY, SO I DIDN'T MIND SO MUCH!
WOBBLE

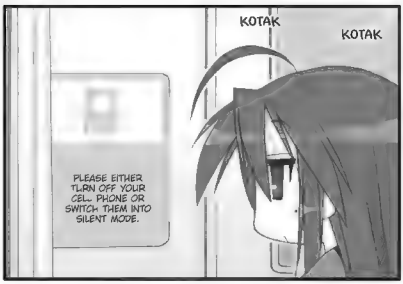

WHEN THE COVER ISN'T CLEAR, YOU HAVE TO CHECK TO SEE IF YOU HAVE THE RIGHT BOOK BEFORE READING IT. BESIDES THAT, YOU CAN'T SEE THE COVER ART.
ISN'T IT EMBARRASSING TO HAVE OTHERS REALIZE WHAT KIND OF BOOK YOU'RE READING THROUGH THE TRANSPARENT COVER?

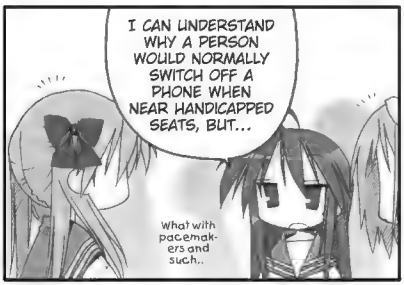
● Dragon Magazine, March 2006 issue



episode 78
top form today too

● Comptiq, May 2006 issue


KOTAK
KOTAK
PLEASE EITHER TURN OFF YOUR CEL. PHONE OR SWITCH THEM INTO SILENT MODE.


I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY A PERSON WOULD NORMALLY SWITCH OFF A PHONE WHEN NEAR HANDICAPPED SEATS, BUT...
What with pacemakers and such..

ISN'T THAT BECAUSE IT BOTHERS PEOPLE TO HEAR OTHER PEOPLE CHATTING ON PHONES DURING A COMMUTE?
WHY IS TALKING ON THE PHONE AGAINST THE RULES ON TRAINS?
YEAH, BUT...

YEAH, I GUESS THERE ARE...
You sure like to slap people with the odd thought, huh?
...EVEN IF THEY AREN'T ON THEIR PHONES, ISN'T THERE ALWAYS AT LEAST ONE PERSON TALKING IN A LOUD VOICE ON EVERY TRAIN?
Could be anyone. Old, young, a man, a woman.

HELLO? HIIRAGI RESI-DENCE...
HEAD-SET ...

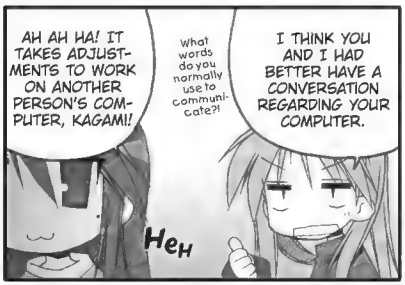
HM... MAYBE WE GOT DISCON-NECTED...
HUH? HELLO? HELLO? HELLO?

Hello... He-llooo!

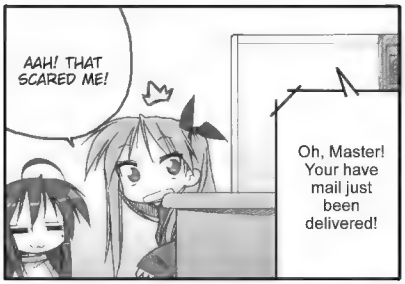
dedicated machine

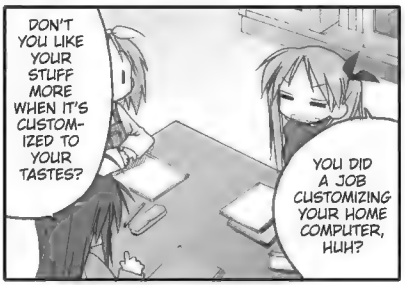
KLIK KLIK KLIK
SAIKIN, SUKOSHI FUCHOU DATTA NODESUGA, MA-NI-AISOU NANODE... (I FEEL A LITTLE UNDER THE WEATHER, BUT I THINK I CAN FINISH ON TIME...)
Saikin, sukoshi fuchou datta nodesuga, mania ısou nanode (I'm feeling a little under the weather, but I can transfer my mania...)

KLIK KLIK KLIK
MOTTO JISOU O TSUKETTE JUKEN NI... DEMO TETSUYA HA... (I WANT TO MAKE A RUNNING START ON MY EXAM STUDYING... BUT I DON'T WANT TO PULL ALL-NIGHTERS...)
Motto jisou o tsukette juken ni... Demo Tetsuya ha... (I want to do my exam studying in drag... But Tetsuya...)


AH AH HA! IT TAKES ADJUSTMENTS TO WORK ON ANOTHER PERSON'S COMPUTER, KAGAMI!
What words do you normally use to communicate?!
I THINK YOU AND I HAD BETTER HAVE A CONVERSATION REGARDING YOUR COMPUTER.
Heh

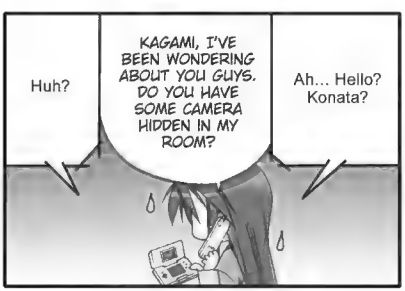
moe empire



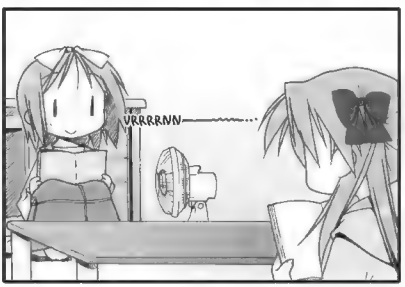


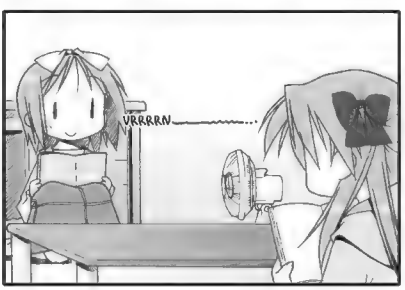
I THINK IT'D TAKE A HEAVY BITE OUT OF THE SELF-RESPECT OF THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE SUCH DEVICES.
SO DON'T YOU THINK IT WOULD BE EVEN MORE EFFECTIVE IF THEY PUT MORE MOE IN CAR NAVIGATION SYSTEM AND SECURITY SYSTEM VOICES?
Something precious will be lost in the transition.

now's her chance



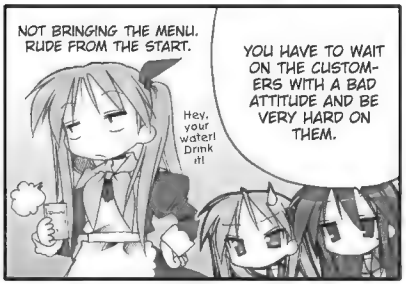
close far

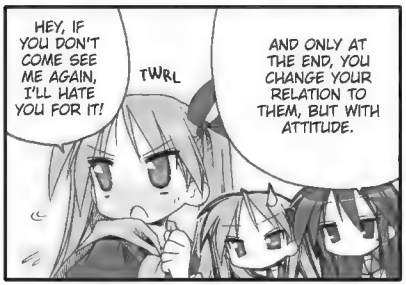




THAT'S SO TRUE!
Ah ha ha.
HALOGEN HEATERS TEND TO BE HOT WHEN CLOSE BY BUT COLD WHEN FAR AWAY. IT'S HARD TO FIND THE RIGHT DISTANCE, HUH?

ACTUALLY, I HAVE SOME DOUBTS ABOUT IT MYSELF.
OR RATHER, WHAT KIND OF PLACE WILL IT BE?


NOT BRINGING THE MENU. RUDE FROM THE START.
Hey, your water! Drink it!
YOU HAVE TO WAIT ON THE CUSTOMERS WITH A BAD ATTITUDE AND BE VERY HARD ON THEM.

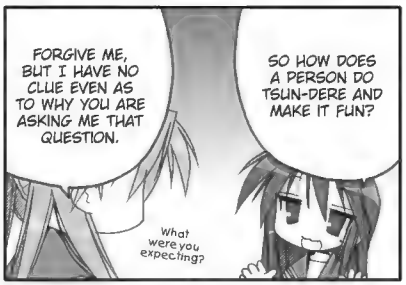

HEY, IF YOU DON'T COME SEE ME AGAIN, I'LL HATE YOU FOR IT!
TWRL
AND ONLY AT THE END, YOU CHANGE YOUR RELATION TO THEM, BUT WITH ATTITUDE.

WHO KNOWS? WE CAN SAY IT'LL BE LIKE THIS OR THAT, BUT I HAVE THE FEELING REALITY WILL BE A LOT DIFFERENT.
I DON'T KNOW. IT SEEMS REALLY RANDOM... BUT IT SOUNDS LIKE FUN...
But how will it play as a cafe?

SURE. RECENTLY IT'S LIKE IT'S JUST ANOTHER NORMAL WORD EVERYBODY SAYS.
It crops up in the normal dramas and stuff.
What's the sudden question for?
YOU KNOW THERE ARE MAID CAFÉS AND STUFF LIKE THAT, RIGHT?
MUNCH
MUNCH

HUH? THEY'VE GOT EVERYTHING, DON'T THEY?
EVER SINCE THEY CAME OUT, THEY'VE ALSO OPENED A FEW TSUNDERE CAFÉS TOO.

PRETTY SOON, THE PLACE I WORK AT WILL BE GOING THAT ROUTE TOO.
For a limited time only
MUNCH
MUNCH


FORGIVE ME, BUT I HAVE NO CLUE EVEN AS TO WHY YOU ARE ASKING ME THAT QUESTION.
SO HOW DOES A PERSON DO TSUN-DERE AND MAKE IT FUN?
What were you expecting?

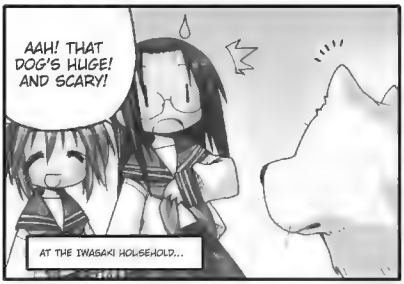
YOU DON'T HAVE TO COMMENT ON EVERYTHING!!
WELL? YOU LIKE IT, DON'T YOU? I CAN TELL YOU LIKE IT!
Trying to figure out when the next book will come out!
ZMM ZMM
Go away!

● Dragon Magazine, April 2006 issue

I-I know all that! Kagami, you're taking this too far!
Yeah, but if you try to determine publication by previous publication dates, it can be misleading. Sometimes it's early in the month. Sometimes it's later.
Miyuki-san, save me!
あいさん

episode 79
undaunted

● Comptiq, June 2006 issue


AAH! THAT DOG'S HUGE! AND SCARY!
AT THE IWASAKI HOUSEHOLD...

HAHH HAHH
PET PET
IT'S ALL RIGHT! IT DOESN'T GROWL, AND IT REALLY LIKES JUST ABOUT EVERYBODY!

WHEN YOU THINK OF IT THAT WAY, IT'S REALLY CUTE!
REALLY? SO BIG DOGS DO THAT KIND OF THING TOO?

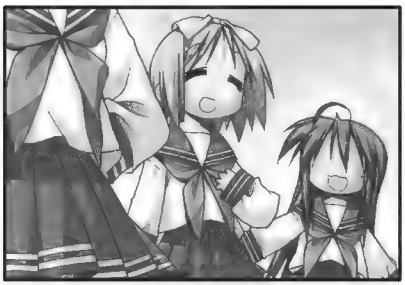
I WONDER IF SHE'S JUST THE KIND OF PERSON THAT GETS GROWLED AT?
!?
HUH? DID I FALL FOR YOUR EVIL TRAP?!
GRRRRRRR~~~

WOW! YOU'RE REALLY GOOD, TAMURA-SAN!
NO... I'VE BEEN IN A SLUMP LATELY.
THAT DRAWING WAS FLAWED.

AH! BUT I THINK COMPARED TO MOST OF MY RECENT DRAWINGS, THIS CAME OUT PRETTY WELL!
HEH HEH

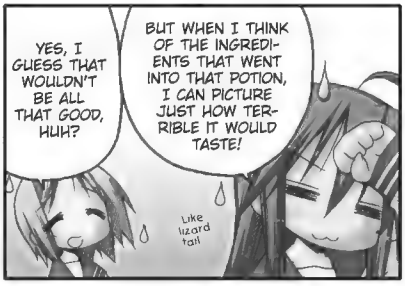
I GUESS THAT'S TRUE. OTHER PEOPLE JUST DON'T SEE THE TINY DIFFERENCES THAT ARE HUGE TO THE ONE WHO DRAWS THE PICTURE.
I knew that already, but.

meet and greet event



KONATA, IT SEEMS YOU'RE THE TYPE TO OVERWRITE REALITY WITH YOUR FANTASY DREAM WORLD.
Can't you tell daydreams from reality?
WHICH MEANS THOSE PEOPLE RAISED A COUPLE OF REALLY BIG FLAGS!

so how good is reality really?


YES, I GUESS THAT WOULDN'T BE ALL THAT GOOD, HUH?
BUT WHEN I THINK OF THE INGREDIENTS THAT WENT INTO THAT POTION, I CAN PICTURE JUST HOW TERRIBLE IT WOULD TASTE!
Like lizard tail

face

HM? I GUESS AT THE TITLE OR THE COVER IMAGE..
There are those that don't have a plot summary written on them.
HEY, KAGAMI! IF YOU WANT TO CHOOSE A LIGHT NOVEL, WHERE DO YOU LOOK?

I DOUBT IT. THOSE NOVELS ARE JUST HARD TO READ. I WONDER IF A COVER WOULD HELP.
SO IF THEY PUT MODERN-STYLE COVER IMAGES ON THE LITERARY NOVELS, KIDS MIGHT READ THEM!
IT'S JUST THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WHINE ABOUT HOW THE NUMBER OF KIDS WHO READ LITERARY NOVELS IS DECREASING, RIGHT?

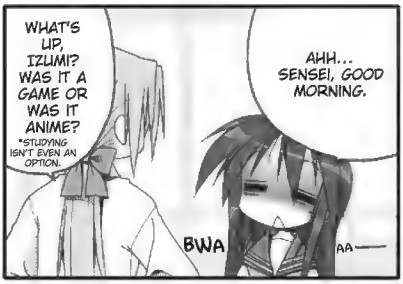
YOU KNOW, THE STREETS ARE UNSAFE WITH YOU ROAMING AROUND.
NO, NO! OTAKU ARE REALLY GOOD AT USING THEIR IMAGINATIONS! SO THEY CAN JUST USE THEIR IMAGINATIONS TO ADD MOE TO THE STORIES THAT LACK IT! IT'LL WORK! IT'LL WORK!

● Dragon Magazine, May 2006 issue

I will concede that your imagination is active. That I give you!
You know, those hard-to-understand parts may even be a bonus! You can imagine so many different meanings!
Tee hee

Lucky☆Star

episode 80
advance & retreat, offense & defense



JUST LIKE ALL THE GAMES I BOUGHT THAT ARE ON MY "TO-PLAY" PILE, HUH?
AFTER ALL, IF YOU RECORDED THEM, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TIME TO WATCH THEM ALL!

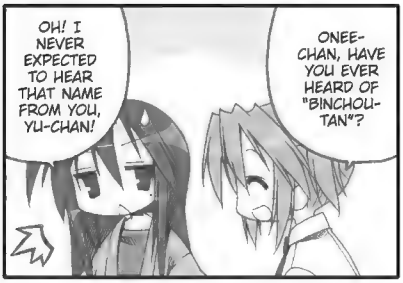
● Shonen Ace, May 2006 issue

salmon

...BUT THEN THEY GO BACK TO THE RIVER THEY WERE BORN IN. LIKE RELIVING MEMORIES AFTER A LONG TIME.
Normally I don't think of things like that.
COME TO THINK OF IT, SALMON ARE RAISED IN THE OCEAN...

stopgap measure

MAYBE, BUT MY EXPERIENCE WITH THE MATTER SAYS...
No need to put on so much pressure.
SEE, MISA-CHAN! HIIRAGI-CHAN HAS PROMISED SHE WILL.


OH! I NEVER EXPECTED TO HEAR THAT NAME FROM YOU, YU-CHAN!
ONEE-CHAN, HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF "BINCHOU-TAN"?

AT SCHOOL TODAY, A FRIEND WAS DRAWING A PICTURE FROM IT.
I thought, "Onee-chan would know that!"
YEAH, I KNOW IT. WHY DO YOU ASK?

SPEAKING FOR MYSELF, I'M REALLY IMPRESSED, BUT...
Really?
Her name is Tamura-san, and she's in the manga club.

...IF I SEND HER BACK HOME AS A NEWLY MINTED OTAKU, YUKI* WOULD NEVER FORGIVE ME!
It doesn't have the best image in the world, does it?
Ha ha ha!
Well, I have an Onee-chan like you!
Yu-chan, your otaku wisdom has just increased!
*YUTAKA'S MOTHER, SOUJIROU'S LITTLE SISTER.

DISK UTILITIES...
72 MINUTES REMAINING

It'll be finished before I thought it would.
IT'S GOING THROUGH IT PRETTY FAST.
65 MINUTES REMAINING

52 MINUTES REMAINING

...BUT STILL IT NEVER WORKS OUT THE WAY THE WAY ANYONE PREDICTS!
SOMETIMES IT'S LESS, SOME-TIMES IT'S MORE...
I KNOW IT'S ALWAYS THE CASE.

light and darkness

another treasure buried today

I KNOW I HAD A REALLY GOOD IDEA TOO...
I should stop thinking of taking memos as a pain!
HUH? THAT'S STRANGE! WHAT WAS IT...?
THE NEXT DAY...

TWITCH
DAMMIT!! I FORGOT TO BUY THAT BOOK!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BUY THE FIRST EDITION, DO YOU? YOU CAN JUST WAIT FOR A REPRINT.
JUST AS I EXPECTED. I DON'T SEE IT ANYWHERE, HUH?
GLANCE
GLANCE
AT THE STORE ...
THOSE ERRORS IN THE FIRST PRINTING CAN BE COUNTED AS ONE OF THE PREMIUMS!
NOT AT ALL! AS A FAN, ONE WANTS THE FIRST PRINTING!
AFTER ALL, LATER EDITIONS HAVE QUITE A FEW ERRORS CORRECTED. ISN'T JUST BETTER?
As a user.
JUST OWNING SOMETHING HAS A MEANING OF ITS OWN!
That's why I can't talk to mundanes!
OH, NO! DO YOU SEE THE ENTIRE WORLD THOUGH THE LENS OF "MARKET VALUES"? THAT'S NO GOOD!
Premium, huh?
ACTUALLY YOU'RE RIGHT. AT AUCTIONS THE FIRST EDITIONS ALWAYS FETCH A HIGHER PRICES, SO I TEND TO LOOK AT THEM MORE.
But it all depends on what's being sold though.

Because it proves that you loved the product from the very start!
Or the more you suffer for it, the more you love it!
But why exactly is the first edition better?

● From Gamers, October 2005 issue

Lucky☆Star

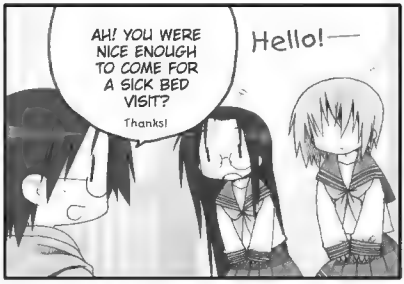
episode 81
imaginary train

WELL, YOU KNOW... COME ON, NEE-SAN! YOU KNOW HOW IT IS!
YOU DON'T HAVE THE STRENGTH TO GO TO SCHOOL, BUT YOU'VE GOT PLENTY OF STRENGTH TO PLAY GAMES, HUH?
Nafu-fu!

● Comptiq, June 2006 issue

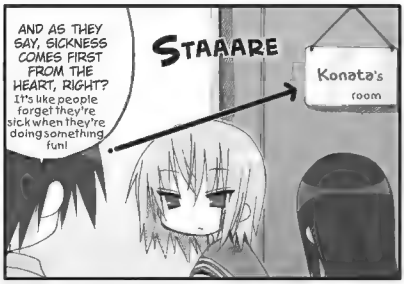
the reason for energy...?

the reason for energy



.....
NO, I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING...
MINAMI-CHAN, YOU'RE TO THANK FOR THAT, HUH?
I KNOW SHE'S RESTRICTED TO BED REST, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YUTAKA SO ENERGETIC!

IT'S LIKE SHE'S HAVING MORE FUN IN SCHOOL THAN SHOULD BE ALLOWED!
...FOR SOME REASON YOUR NAME ALWAYS COMES UP, MINAMI-CHAN!
MAYBE YOU GUYS JUST GET ALONG, BUT...
SHE HAD A CLOSE FRIEND IN MIDDLE SCHOOL AS WELL.
It's like her big sister doesn't exist anymore!


AND AS THEY SAY, SICKNESS COMES FIRST FROM THE HEART, RIGHT?
It's like people forget they're sick when they're doing something fun!
STAAARE
Konata's room

not at all

IS SHE? I DIDN'T KNOW THAT!
No. That isn't true.
PANIC
SPEAKING OF PEOPLE WORRYING ABOUT THEIR WEAK POINTS, I HEAR YOU'RE UPTIGHT ABOUT YOUR LACK OF BUST-SIZE, MINAMI-CHAN.

thank you

DON'T LOOK AT IT THAT WAY! IT'S WHAT MAKES SO MANY PEOPLE WANT TO PROTECT YOU!
I hate making everybody worry about me.
WHY IS IT I'M ALWAYS GETTING SICK?
Sticking her nose into everything.

YEAH! DON'T I KNOW IT!
Nice observation. First year!
HM... NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, PEOPLE WHO ACTUALLY HAVE YOUNGER SISTERS FIND IT HARDER TO FEEL YOUNGER-SISTER-MOE.
MAYBE, BUT EVEN THOUGH THAT'S FINE FOR THOSE PEOPLE, IT'S PROBABLY HARD ON YUTAKA HERSELF!

THAT'S JUST THE WAY THE WORLD IS, SEMPAI! WE'RE LOOKED ON AS OUTLAWS!
OH, NO! HERE IT COMES! THE DISDAIN ATTACK FROM THE MUNDANES!
That aura that says they just can't accept our words!
STaaaaRe

SURE, I KNOW THAT IF I LOOK AROUND ENOUGH, I COULD FIND IT, BUT...
BUT IF EVERYBODY DID THAT, THE LOCAL BOOK-STORES WON'T BE ABLE TO SELL IT HERE!
Why go there and pay the high train fares!

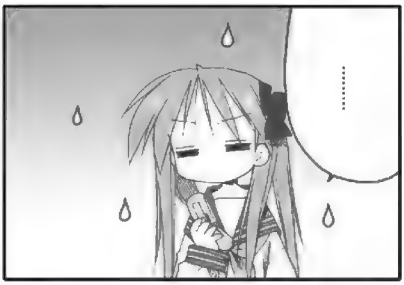
...OR THAT I'LL FIND SOME OTHER FABULOUS ITEM WHILE I'M THERE!
Wouldn't that make you want to go?!
...IF I MAKE A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND, I CAN HOPE THAT THEY'LL THROW IN A BONUS GIFT...
BWA
AA

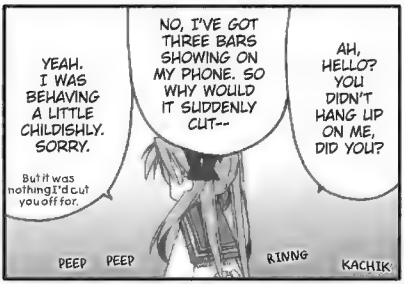
NOW YOU'VE HIT UPON IT!! THE OTAKU DREAM!!
Not that I can imagine you moving there, but...
THEN WOULDN'T IT BE QUICKER IF YOU JUST LIVED IN AKIHABARA?!
You're taking me seriously?

If you actually lived there, I could see you descending into a depraved life of otaku-goods addiction.
Oh, but rent and stuff seems really expensive there. Let's see, the colleges close to Akihabara are...

● From Gamers, January 2006 issue

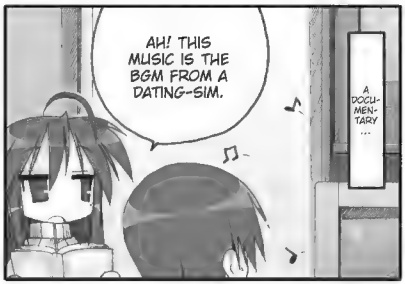
episode 82
rough seas




YEAH. I WAS BEHAVING A LITTLE CHILDISHLY. SORRY.
But it was nothing. I'd cut you off for.
NO, I'VE GOT THREE BARS SHOWING ON MY PHONE. SO WHY WOULD IT SUDDENLY CUT--
AH, HELLO? YOU DIDN'T HANG UP ON ME, DID YOU?
PEEP PEEP
RINNG
KACHIK

● Comptiq, June 2006 issue

uncensored blending of audio and video



OH, NOW I SEE!
AND THE PEOPLE PUTTING THE SHOW TOGETHER CAN DO SO WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT OBJECTIONS.
I'M SURE THOSE WHO KNOW THE MUSIC ARE HAPPY TO HEAR IT, AND THOSE WHO DON'T WOULD NEVER KNOW WHERE IT COMES FROM.

refreshing like a blue sky after a rain

HA HA HA! STILL, IT'S THEIR JOB, SO THEY WOULD HAVE TO.
I'M SURPRISED THAT THE ACTORS ON THE COMMERCIAL CAN DRINK IT AND MAKE IT LOOK GOOD.
Must've been hard.

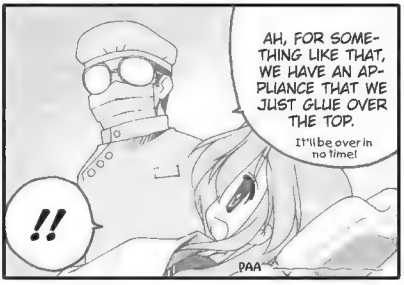
WHOA! I COULD SEE IT HAPPENING, BUT WHAT A SCARY THING TO SAY!
MAYBE THEY SWITCH THE CONTENTS OF THE DRINK DURING THE FILMING OF THE COMMERCIAL.

standards of employment

BUT THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE A MASOCHIST, RIGHT?
Just making sure.
BUT YOUR DAD IS PRETTY FOND OF DENTISTS.
TRUE. DEPENDING ON HOW ADVANCED THEIR EQUIPMENT IS AND THE LOCATION, SOME DENTAL PROCEDURES CAN BE REALLY PAINFUL.

AND 3-D GIRLS AT THAT!
WOW! DAD! YOU ACTUALLY LOOK AT OLDER GIRLS ONCE IN A WHILE!
It makes me have hope for you!
"WEREN'T YOU JUST HIRED FOR YOUR PRETTY FACE?!"
It's nutrition for the eyes!
NO! IT'S BECAUSE THEY HIRE GIRLS TO BE DENTAL ASSISTANTS SO PRETTY YOU HAVE TO ASK...

faint



KAGAMI-SAMA! LET'S STOP OVER AT GAMERS ON THE WAY HOME!
She's at it again?
EHH ...?
THERE'S NOTHING THERE I WANT TO BUY, AND I HAVE A FEW OTHER ERRANDS, SO I'LL PASS!
BOO
OO
NO! BESIDES, THERE ARE PLENTY OF GOOD BOOK STORES RIGHT NEAR WHERE YOU LIVE!
And who wants the hassle of getting on and off the trains.
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL! IT'S JUST FOR A FEW MINUTES!
Don't play with that!
PULL—
PULL—
YOU'RE RUINED FOR THE REST OF STORE-DOM, HUH?
I should have guessed.
They don't have the things I want all in one spot!
...NORMAL STORES JUST DON'T SATISFY ME ANYMORE, DON'T YOU THINK?
MMM... BUT AFTER GOING TO THAT KIND OF STORE ONCE...

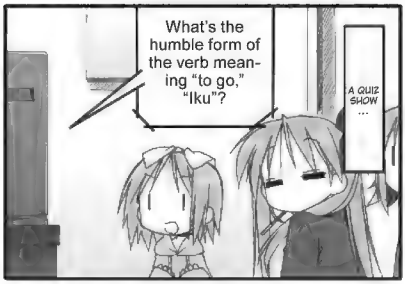
It's like I'm beaconed by harmonics generated between the auras of people with like minds!!

There's just a certain something at that store that makes my spirits soar!

● From Gamers, February 2006 issue

Lucky☆Star

episode 83
work towards the goal

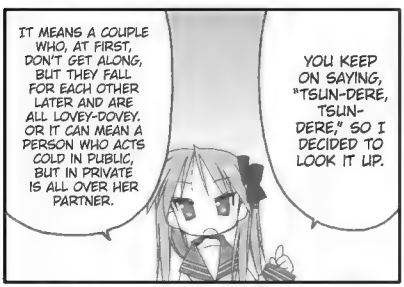


YUP. I'M SURE THAT'S THE RIGHT ANSWER.
THAT'S EASY! IT'S "IKA-GAU" RIGHT?
("TO QUESTION" OR "TO VISIT")
YES, I'M CERTAIN OF IT!
AH, YES, IT'S "IKA-GAU," ISN'T IT?

WHAT IS THIS UNCOMFORTABLE ATMOSPHERE?
Everybody was certain, but everyone was wrong.
When you think about it, that can happen! Mother was carried along by everyone's certainty, and so was I...

● Comptiq, June 2006 issue

KAGAMI, YOU REALLY ARE SO TSUN-DERE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
Ha ha ha! Go girl.


IT MEANS A COUPLE WHO, AT FIRST, DON'T GET ALONG, BUT THEY FALL FOR EACH OTHER LATER AND ARE ALL LOVEY-DOVEY. OR IT CAN MEAN A PERSON WHO ACTS COLD IN PUBLIC, BUT IN PRIVATE IS ALL OVER HER PARTNER.
YOU KEEP ON SAYING, "TSUN-DERE, TSUN-DERE," SO I DECIDED TO LOOK IT UP.

YOU MISS THE POINT, KAGAMI.
BUT EITHER WAY, NEITHER REALLY APPLY TO ME, RIGHT?
TSK TSK TSK

DAMMIT! IT'S LIKE ANYTHING GOES, THESE DAYS!
WE ARE IN AN AGE WHERE A PERSON WHO ACTS EVEN SLIGHTLY CLOSE TO THE STEREOTYPE IS LABELED, AND EVERYONE AROUND HER CHANGES THEIR DEFINITION TO MATCH HER PERSONALITY.

YOU TWO ARE SUCH GOOD FRIENDS, HUH?
HAVE YOU EVER GOTTEN INTO A FIGHT?

I CAN SEE THAT. THAT TYPE OF PERSON IS ALL OVER, HUH?
Absolutely!
OH, SURE WE HAVE! SHE MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT AYANO IS SCARY WHEN SHE'S ANGRY.
Honestly, even you're teasing me, Hiiragi-chan!

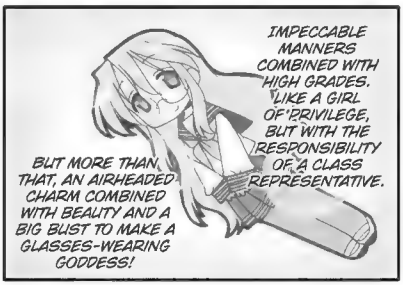
I WAS AFRAID THAT WAS THE KIND OF STATUS I'D BEEN ASSIGNED.
I know those people are all over, but that I'd be one.
NG
GON
BY THE WAY, YOU'RE THE NORMALLY SCARY TYPE, HUH, HIIRAGI?
You sort of seem the type to be easily ticked off.

sketch from hell

ON THE OTHER HAND, A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF USERS CAN'T KEEP FROM CRYING.
WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THEM A TRY, TAKARA-SEMPAI.
MM... IT WAS SCARY AT FIRST. BUT THEY FEEL GOOD.
I-I WONDER HOW THEY FEEL TO WEAR.
Weren't you afraid to put them on?

※ SOMEBODY OPENED THE WINDOW.

first contact


IMPECCABLE MANNERS COMBINED WITH HIGH GRADES. LIKE A GIRL OF PRIVILEGE, BUT WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE.
BUT MORE THAN THAT, AN AIRHEADED CHARM COMBINED WITH BEAUTY AND A BIG BUST TO MAKE A GLASSES-WEARING GODDESS!

OH, DO FORGIVE ME! I HAVE A BAD HABIT OF STARING AT A PERSON'S MOE PARTS!
TAMURA-SAN, YOUR REACTION SEEMS MUCH LIKE KONATA-ONEE-CHAN'S!
AHH! THIS GIRL'S SPECS ARE OFF THE CHART!
SWOON

episode 84
i like you just the way you are

It was bad for me.
'SUP! THE TESTS THIS TIME EXHAUSTED ME IN ALL SORTS OF WAYS!
I managed to get through them, though.
Let's go home!
END OF EXAMS...
HA HA HA!! I SPENT ONE SLEEPLESS NIGHT CRAMMING, AND THE TESTS WERE ON EXACTLY WHAT I STUDIED! I DID GREAT!
Oh, you.
Eh-heh!
YOU KNOW! IF YOU KEEP UP THAT SLIP-SHOD METHOD OF STUDY, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A HARD TIME IN LIFE!
Study the right way!
LISTEN YOU...
?
HUH? BUT WE WILL NEVER USE THIS KNOW-LEDGE LATER IN LIFE!
The stuff we study in high school.

● Comp Ace Vol. 3, Extra Edition, September 2005

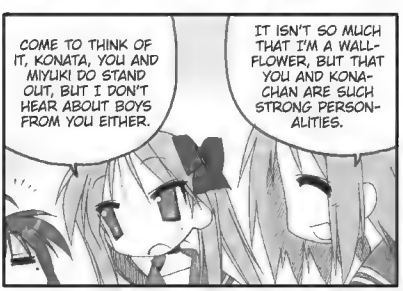
WOULDN'T IT BE A GOOD THING IF YOU TOOK YOUR STRONG POINTS AND ENHANCED THEM A LITTLE TO MAKE THEM MORE APPEALING?
I don't mind things as they are!

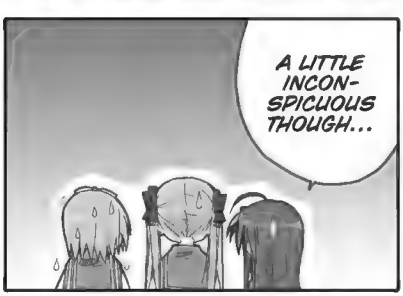
EH?
No, I'm not!
YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'D BE REALLY POPULAR WITH THE BOYS, TSUKASA! BUT THE SUBJECT NEVER COMES UP WITH YOU.

COME TO THINK OF IT, WHEN EVERYBODY'S DOWN WITH A COLD, TSUKASA'S JUST FINE!
TSUKASA'S STRONG POINT IS COOKING, AND THAT'S HARD TO PUSH.
She makes bento, but that's so ordinary.

DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?
ISN'T THAT BECAUSE SHE'S GOT A SCARY OLDER SISTER GUARDING HER?
YEP. TSUKASA'S GOT A WALLFLOWER NATURE, AND SHE DOESN'T REALLY STAND OUT.
And she's quiet.

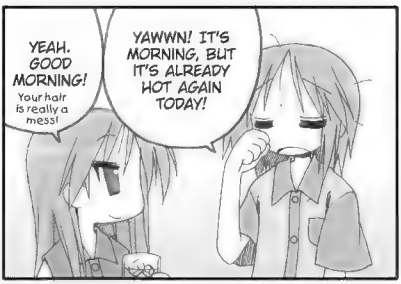
HEALTH AND RESILIENCE ARE PRETTY GOOD STRONG POINTS!
YOU'RE RIGHT. I DON'T REMEMBER TSUKASA EVER CATCHING ANY BAD BUGS FROM ANYBODY!
EH? IS THAT RIGHT?

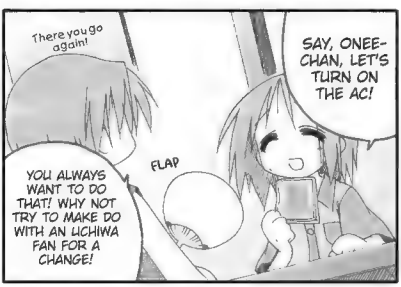

COME TO THINK OF IT, KONATA, YOU AND MIYUKI DO STAND OUT, BUT I DON'T HEAR ABOUT BOYS FROM YOU EITHER.
IT ISN'T SO MUCH THAT I'M A WALLFLOWER, BUT THAT YOU AND KONACHAN ARE SUCH STRONG PERSONALITIES.


A LITTLE INCONSPICUOUS THOUGH...

HUH? I DON'T SEE HOW THAT'S SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF.
That's some weird self-confidence you've got there.
THAT'S BECAUSE OUR PERSONALITIES ARE FOCUSED DIRECTLY TO ATTRACT HARDCORE OTAKU!
EH HEH HEH

energy

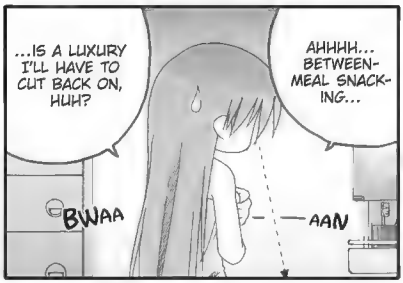

YEAH. GOOD MORNING!
Your hair is really a mess!
YAWWN! IT'S MORNING, BUT IT'S ALREADY HOT AGAIN TODAY!


There you go again!
SAY, ONEE-CHAN, LET'S TURN ON THE AC!
FLAP
YOU ALWAYS WANT TO DO THAT! WHY NOT TRY TO MAKE DO WITH AN UCHIWA FAN FOR A CHANGE!

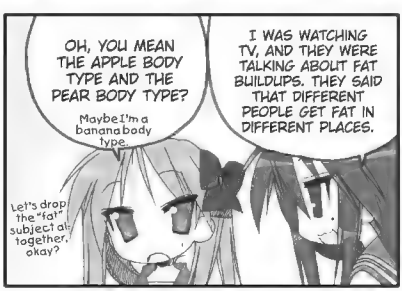
DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
AHHH... I GUESS UCHIWA CAN MAKE THINGS PRETTY COOL.

WELL... YES IT DOES, BUT...
Can't you take it a little longer?
BUT FANNING YOURSELF TIRES YOU OUT, AND WHEN YOU STOP, DON'T YOU FEEL EVEN HOTTER?
With an Uchiwa...
It's so hot.
THREE MINUTES LATER...

fat

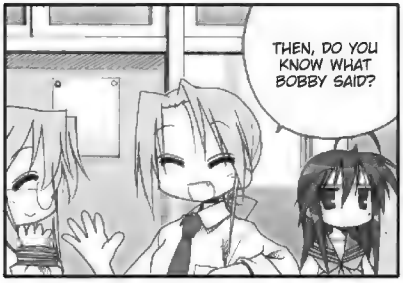

...IS A LUXURY I'LL HAVE TO CUT BACK ON, HUH?
AHHHH... BETWEEN-MEAL SNACK-ING...
BWAA
AAN

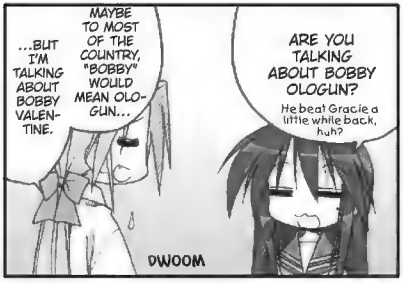
...IT'S RE-ALLY HARD TO SHED WEIGHT DUR-ING WINTER, HUH?
I DON'T EAT MANY SNACKS ANYWAY, BUT...


OH, YOU MEAN THE APPLE BODY TYPE AND THE PEAR BODY TYPE?
Maybe I'm a banana body type.
I WAS WATCHING TV, AND THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT FAT BUILDUPS. THEY SAID THAT DIFFERENT PEOPLE GET FAT IN DIFFERENT PLACES.
Let's drop the "fat" subject altogether, okay?

THERE IT IS AGAIN! IS SEXUAL HARASSMENT A SPECIALTY OF YOURS?
Bell-peppers aren't a fruit!
EH...?
Fat collects on her chest area first.
WELL, IF WE THINK OF IT THAT WAY, I'D SAY THAT MIYUKI IS A BELL-PEPPER TYPE.

episode 85
the curtain opens on the legend




...BUT I'M TALKING ABOUT BOBBY VALENTINE.
MAYBE TO MOST OF THE COUNTRY, "BOBBY" WOULD MEAN OLOGUN...
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT BOBBY OLOGUN?
He beat Gracie a little while back, huh?
DWOOM

● Comp Ace Vol. 4, Extra edition, November 2005

NOW, NOW! DIDN'T THEY SLASH PRICES AT LOTTERIA?
Like the shrimp-flavored ebi burger?
Either one would appeal only to Kagami, though...
THE LEAST THEY COULD DO IS PUT A DISCOUNT ON ALL LOTTE ITEMS!
To spread Koala's March country wide!

THE SAME IS TRUE FOR ME. THAT'S WHY I PLAN TO GO TO SOME PLACES WHERE THEY'VE GOT THE RESTAURANTS.
THERE AREN'T ANY LOTTERIAS NEAR MY HOME.
Or any of the places I tend to pass by.

PART OF THE FESTIVAL FEELING IS SPENDING THE MONEY! IT RAISES YOUR SPIRITS!
People splurge a bit at festivals, right?
BUT IF YOU HAVE TO PAY TRAIN FARE TO GET THERE, WHAT MEANING DOES THE SALE HAVE?

IT'S NO USE TRYING LOGIC ON THIS WOMAN RIGHT NOW.
She's imagining flowers blowing in the wind right now I just know it!
BWAA
AA

'SUP, EVERYBODY! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MORNING THIS IS!
AND LOTTE WINS THE CHAMPIONSHIP...

OH! THANKS!
SENSEI, LOTTE WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP! CONGRATS!

THAT'S TRUE, HUH?
AFTER 31 YEARS, THE MYSTERY IS FINALLY SOLVED. I KNOW WHAT ITEMS GO ON SALE FOLLOWING THE VICTORY.

HA HA HA! WELL, WINNING IS ITS OWN REWARD, RIGHT?
Just chew your gum and forget it!
IT'S MISERABLE COMPARED TO OTHER PLACE'S CHAMPIONSHIP SALES, HUH?
Just a tiny discount on a few select items.

LOTTE WAS A REALLY GOOD TEAM THIS YEAR!
YOU COULD SAY THAT! YEAH!

THEY'RE SO GOOD, THEY SWEPT THE SERIES IN FOUR GAMES. YOU MUST BE FLYING, HUH?
WELL, YES, I AM, BUT... THERE ARE SOME THINGS I WONDER TOO. But if you ask if I'm happy about it, I'd say yes!

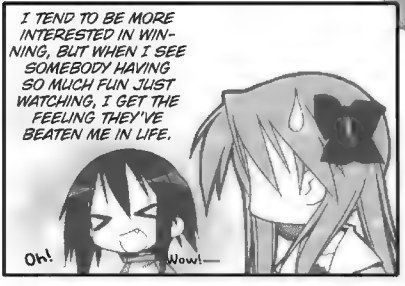
HM... ONE CAN BE ENTHUSIASTIC WHEN THEY WIN...
WHAT "THINGS" ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
...BUT I THINK *HOW* THEY WIN CAN BE JUST AS IMPORTANT.

IN THE END, YOU'RE SO FRUSTRATED YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO, RIGHT?
AFTER I FINALLY MANAGED TO GET MY TICKETS FOR GAME SIX!!!
Tickets were impossible to come by, you know!

HUH? YEAH... SO YOU THINK SO TOO, IZUMI?
SENSEI!, YOUR FAVORITE TEAM WON THE SERIES, BUT YOU'RE ACTING A LITTLE SHORT ON THE ENTHUSIASM!
BWAA—

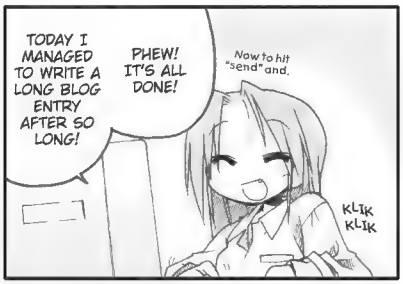
Lucky☆Star

episode 86
a placid early afternoon

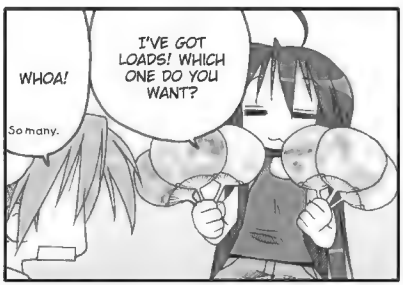

I TEND TO BE MORE INTERESTED IN WINNING, BUT WHEN I SEE SOMEBODY HAVING SO MUCH FUN JUST WATCHING, I GET THE FEELING THEY'VE BEATEN ME IN LIFE.
Oh!
Wow!

●Comp Ace Vol. 4, Extra Edition, January 2006

sense of loss



matching thoughts

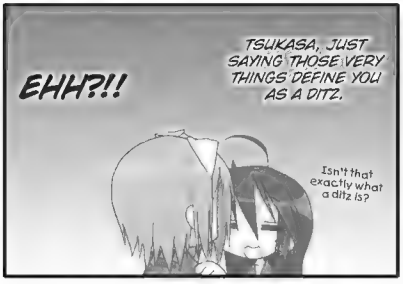


LIKE I WAS SAYING ...
IN THE WINTER, THEY ALL PUT OUT CALENDARS!
I don't know what to do then!
HEY, I'M LUCKY WHEN IT'S JUST UCHIWA!
when ever I work a booth
And I get tons of pencil boards.

EH?! NO, I'M NOT REALLY!
SO YOU REALLY ARE A DITZ, HUH, TSUKASA?
I don't ditz out.

WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING RE-CENTLY.
...MAYBE I SHOULD BE DOING THAT, HUH?
HM... BUT...

WORK REALLY HARD ON BUILDING UP MY BRAIN AND STAVE OFF THE DITZYNESS...
WHAT'S IT CALLED? BRAIN TRAINING?
EH HEH HEH


EHH?!!
TSUKASA, JUST SAYING THOSE VERY THINGS DEFINE YOU AS A DITZ.
Isn't that exactly what a ditz is?

YU-CHAN, 'MORNING!
GOOD MORNING!
UNCLE SOU-JIROU! ONEE-CHAN!

YEAH! IT'S AN ANIMAL ANIME THAT JUST STARTED RECENTLY.
YOU GUYS WERE WATCHING ANIME?

THAT'S TRUE! SHE'S MORE MOE THAN EVEN THE HEROINE!
In how bashfulshe is!
YEAH, AND ITS OWNER IS REALLY CUTE TOO!
A pretty picture.
IT'S A CORGI! HOW CUTE!

THERE'S ALWAYS ONE IN EVERY ANIME THESE DAYS, HUH?
WOW! TSUN-DERE MOE!
Good job, anime people!
OH, A HUSKY! YOU DON'T SEE THEM MUCH THESE DAYS!
I like them, though!

episode 87
moe drill

● from software for the Nintendo DS
A collection of strips that came as a bonus when ordering the Lucky Star Moe Drill DX Pack.

OH, NO! YOU'VE OUTSMARTED ME AGAIN, KONATA!
Bingo!
...ALL OF THOSE GROUPS HAVE DONE SONGS FOR ANIME, HAVEN'T THEY?
And Patty, their anime songs are the only ones you listen to, right?

That one is a Naruto person...
...and this one is an FMA person...
...and this other one is a Gundam Seed person...

IT WAS ALMOST LIKE BEING A PRO! IT FELT GOOD!
I WAS SO SURPRISED! THEY REALLY WANTED US TO SING!

HM... HEH! WHAT IF IT'S BECAUSE SHE'S SUCH A BAD SINGER SHE COULD SHATTER EARDRUMS?
BUT I WONDER WHY YUKI-CHAN WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T COME ALONG?

COME ON! IT'S PROBABLY SIMPLY BECAUSE SHE'S SICK!
Don't go assuming your guess is the truth!
YEAAAH...
I-I THINK WE'VE STUMBLED ON A TOPIC WE DARE NOT DISCUSS.

.....
Eh heh heh!
Eh? You think I should sing...?

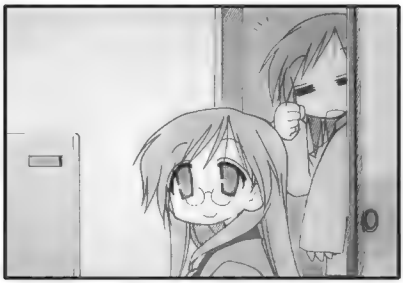
EH?
SAY, HIKAGE-CHAN, DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO MY DOUJINSHI THAT WERE PILED UP OVER THERE?
It was in among the newspapers and magazines.

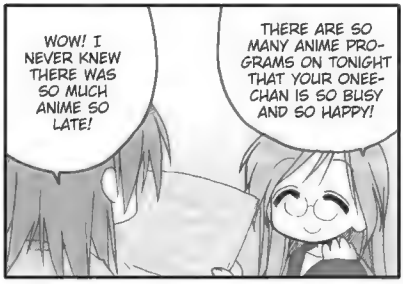
ONEE-CHAN WILL GET SO ANGRY! SHE'LL PROBABLY PUNISH ME LIKE LAST TIME, MAKING ME GO VEGETARIAN FOR A WEEK!
AH... WHAT'LL I DO?! I PROBABLY THREW THEM AWAY THINKING THEY WERE JUST MORE OLD MAGAZINES...

Y-YOU FORGIVE ME?
OH, DEAR! YOU NEEDN'T CRY ABOUT IT!
You're a good girl for telling the truth.
WAAH! I'M SORRY! I MIGHT HAVE THROWN IT OUT...
OF COURSE I DO! SILLY GIRL!
What's done is done, and there's nothing we can do.

BUT WE'RE ABOUT OUT OF MONEY FOR THIS MONTH, SO WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE DO WITH SALTED RICE GRUEL, ALL RIGHT?
MY DOUJINSHI, NATURALLY! I BOUGHT REPLACEMENTS.
UM... ONEE-SAMA! WHAT IS THAT?
Anyway, we'll make what's in the fridge
FULL BAG

Onee-chan is truly merciless!
I know that she really isn't mad at me, but...

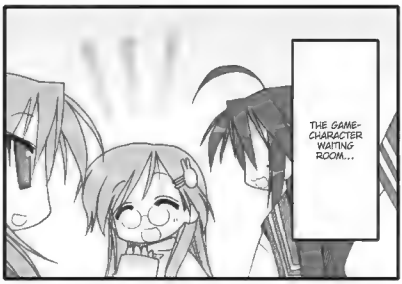


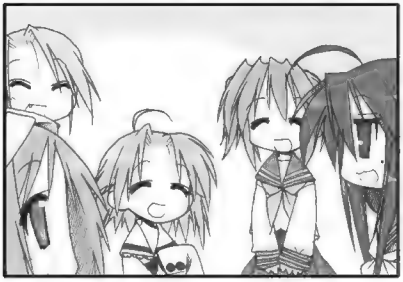

WOW! I NEVER KNEW THERE WAS SO MUCH ANIME SO LATE!
THERE ARE SO MANY ANIME PROGRAMS ON TONIGHT THAT YOUR ONEE-CHAN IS SO BUSY AND SO HAPPY!

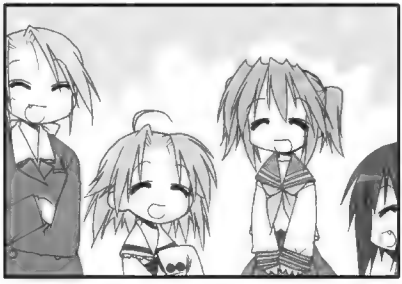
I'M SURE IT'S BECAUSE IT DEALS WITH ADULT CONCERNS, NEEDS AND WANTS.
And good children should be sleeping!
BUT JUST ABOUT EVERYBODY'S ASLEEP AT A TIME LIKE THIS. WHY ARE THERE SO MANY ON TV?

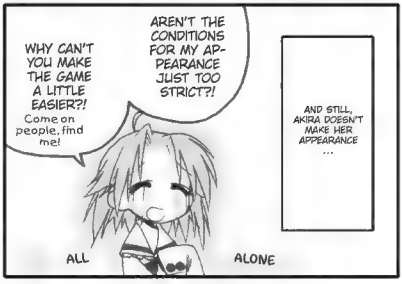
Much is graphically displayed on late-night TV! Things like blood and the underworld and panties! If good children aren't in bed by that time, they'll be punished!

koban for example, pearls for example








WHY CAN'T YOU MAKE THE GAME A LITTLE EASIER?!
Come on people, find me!
AREN'T THE CONDITIONS FOR MY APPEARANCE JUST TOO STRICT?!
AND STILL, AKIRA DOESN'T MAKE HER APPEARANCE ...
ALL
ALONE

If you have love in your heart, then we'll meet up!!

YES, JAPAN'S CHARACTERS ARE ALL SO MOE!
KLIK
KLIK
HUH? THIS SCREEN... ISN'T IT ACTING WEIRD?
KLIK
KLIK
HUMPH! I GUESS THAT'S THE RESPONSE TO IMMORALITY, HUH?
AH... DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. IT'S JUST THE WAY THEY DO THINGS HERE.
KLIK
KLIK
AHHH! AND WHAT KIND OF GAME ARE YOU PLAYING, MY HIGH-SCHOOL AGED FRIENDS?
VWUMP
OH!

● Free with Comptiq, February 2006 issue Lucky Star: Okiraku Guide Book

the "hot" country

YES! I AM KEPT SO BUSY WITH COOKING, CLOTHES WASHING, MANGA, ANIME, AND TONS OF OTHER THINGS!
"Anime"
PATRICIA-SAN, YOU'RE LIVING ALONE? NOT STAYING IN A DORM OR ANYTHING?

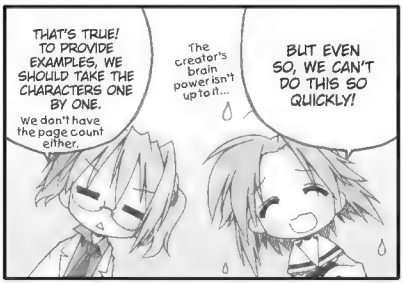
I interpret it this way.
Servant -> Someone who helps.
Maid -> Someone who makes us feel happy.

NO, NO, NO! I DIDN'T SAY SERVANT. I SAID MAID.
I IMAGINE JUST GETTING USED TO THE COUNTRY IS HARD ENOUGH. ALL THAT HOUSEWORK WOULD MAKE A PERSON WANT A SERVANT.
TSKTSKTSK

WAIT, DON'T YOU HAVE A WRONG IMPRESSION OF THIS NATION?
NO, THEY'RE SO DIFFERENT! YOU LIVE IN THE COUNTRY OF MOE, YET YOU'VE LEARNED NOTHING?!
Servants are not moe!
EH... AREN'T THEY THE SAME THING...?

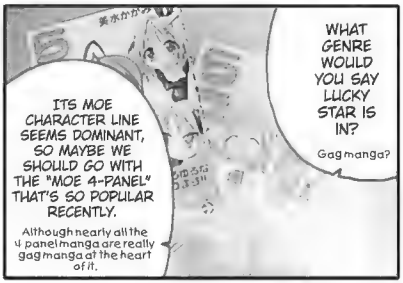
● **Dorimaga, January 2006 issue**

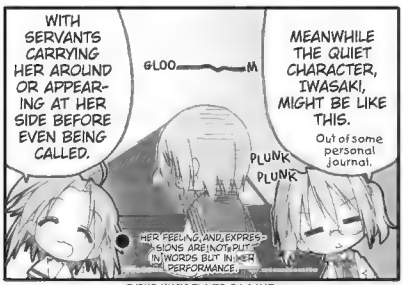
SPECIAL EXTRAS


THAT'S TRUE! TO PROVIDE EXAMPLES, WE SHOULD TAKE THE CHARACTERS ONE BY ONE.
We don't have the page count either.
The creator's brain power isn't up to it...
BUT EVEN SO, WE CAN'T DO THIS SO QUICKLY!

WHAT IS IT, PRIVATE?
SAY, HIKARU-SENSEI!
HIKARU SAKURABA (PRESENT "LUCKY PARADISE" CAPTAIN)
AKIRA KOGAMI PRIVATE 2ND CLASS (FORMERLY "LUCKY CHANNEL" CAPTAIN)

AAAH! YU-CHAN, HANG IN THERE!
And it's tough on Minami-chan, too!
KOFF
MINAMI-CHA--URPH...
FIRST WE'LL TRY SOME-THING LIKE THIS.
THE CHARACTER WITH HEALTH PROBLEMS COUGHING UP BLOOD WHILE UTTERING HER LINES.


ITS MOE CHARACTER LINE SEEMS DOMINANT, SO MAYBE WE SHOULD GO WITH THE "MOE 4-PANEL" THAT'S SO POPULAR RECENTLY.
Although nearly all the 4 panel manga are really gag manga at the heart of it.
WHAT GENRE WOULD YOU SAY LUCKY STAR IS IN?
Gag manga?


WITH SERVANTS CARRYING HER AROUND OR APPEAR-ING AT HER SIDE BEFORE EVEN BEING CALLED.
GLOO M
MEANWHILE THE QUIET CHARACTER, IWASAKI, MIGHT BE LIKE THIS.
Out of some personal journal.
PLUNK
PLUNK
HER FEELING AND EXPRES-SIONS ARE NOT PUT IN WORDS BUT IN HER PERFORMANCE.
THEME MUSIC PLAYED ON A HAR-MONICA WOULD BE REALLY CUTE!

THEN I GUESS WE'D HAVE TO PUT IT LIKE THIS...
You can't really call it gag comedy, right?
SO IF LUCKY STAR WAS A NORMAL "GAG MANGA," WHAT WOULD IT BE LIKE?

WITH HER LIKE THIS, THEY COULD NEVER ALLOW HER TO DO ANYTHING CUTE LIKE PIGGING OUT OR GETTING FAT!
KRAKL KRAKL
HAVE YOU FINISHED PRAYING FOR YOUR SOUL YET?
AND AT TIMES, HAVE THE TSUKKOMI CHARACTER HI-IRAGI-NEECHAN CARRY A HARISEN AND ACTUALLY AT-TACK WITH IT.
THE TSUKKOMI ATTACKS EVERYTHING WITH FULL FORCE.

"WHAT IF" DE LUCKY ☆ STAR!
WHAT IF LUCKY STAR WAS A NOR-MAL GAG MANGA, WHAT WOULD THE CHARACTERS COME OUT LIKE?

THE DRAWINGS OF HER SHOULD BE TONED DOWN. NOT BECAUSE DETAIL IS A PAIN TO DRAW, BUT DUE TO THE AUTHOR'S SELF-RESTRAINT.
TAKARA IS THE IDOL OF THE SCHOOL. THE SEXY CLASS REPRESENTATIVE WHO IS ALWAYS EMOTIONAL AND A LITTLE OUT OF IT.
THE TYPE OF GIRL WITH A FANATICAL FAN CLUB.

WOOOW! SHE REALLY TAKES FLIGHT!
IZUMI, WAKE UP!!
KUROI-SAN SHOULD PUNISH STUDENTS WITH A BAT.
THwakaam
COMMUTES IN A ...OTTE UNIFORM.

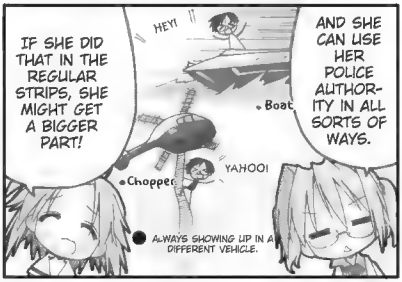
SO I THINK WE SHOULD END THIS DISCUSSION HERE.
HMM... SHE'S ALREADY ABOUT AS CLOSE TO A GAG MANGA PERSONALITY AS SHE NEED TO BE.
What about me?
COME TO THINK OF IT, WE HAVEN'T SEEN KONATA-SAN YET!

AHH... THAT'S A WELL-KNOWN OVER-REACTION FOUND IN MANGA AND STUFF.
It's sooo delicious!!
SPLAAASH
AND SPEAKING OF FLYING, IT MIGHT DO WELL TO HAVE PEOPLE TAKING WING WHEN EATING THE HIIRAGI YOUNGER SISTER'S COOKING.
AN OVER-REACTION TO EATING HER FOOD.

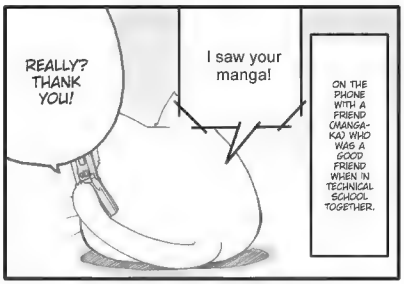
THERE AREN'T ANY INTERESTING CHARACTERS LEFT, ARE THERE?
Aside from how Minegishi's forehead shines.
GLEEEM
AH... AND WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS...
Don't you think that's a little rude?!

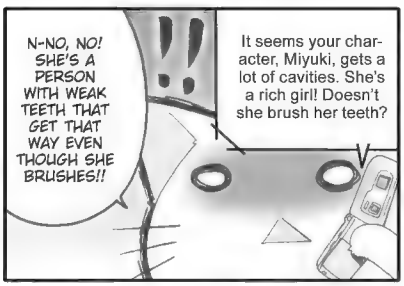
YEAH, BUT SHE WOULD ACTUALLY DO THAT KIND OF THING!
AHH, YOU GOT ME PEGGED, DON'T YOU?
Ahaaa!
PSHAAA
AND NARUMI-SAN IS ALWAYS FLYING INTO THE FRAY.
WHENEVER SHE SHOWS UP, SHE'S ALWAYS RACING HER CAR OR GETTING INTO ACCIDENTS.

HEY, A CONDITION OF THIS PIECE IS NOT TO COMPLAIN ABOUT THAT!!
I MEAN, IF IT REALLY WERE AN ANYTHING-GOES GAG MANGA, WE'D APPEAR IN THE REGULAR STORIES!
Ahh Isn't that the real punch line?
AND SO...


IF SHE DID THAT IN THE REGULAR STRIPS, SHE MIGHT GET A BIGGER PART!
HEY!
Boat
Chopper
YAHOO!
AND SHE CAN USE HER POLICE AUTHORITY IN ALL SORTS OF WAYS.
ALWAYS SHOWING UP IN A DIFFERENT VEHICLE.

being picked on

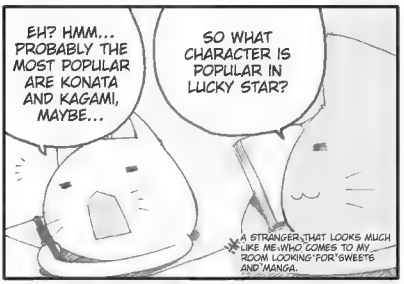

REALLY? THANK YOU!
I saw your manga!
ON THE PHONE WITH A FRIEND (MANGA-KA) WHO WAS A GOOD FRIEND WHEN IN TECHNICAL SCHOOL TOGETHER.

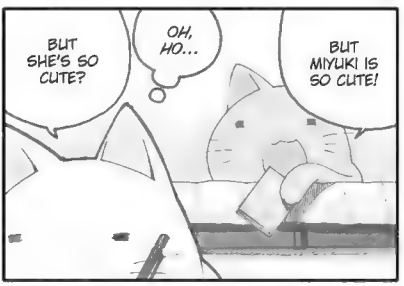

N-NO, NO! SHE'S A PERSON WITH WEAK TEETH THAT GET THAT WAY EVEN THOUGH SHE BRUSHES!!
It seems your character, Miyuki, gets a lot of cavities. She's a rich girl! Doesn't she brush her teeth?

NO, REALLY! SHE REALLY DOES BRUSH!! DON'T GET HER WRONG! MIYUKI-SAN IS A VERY HYGIENIC PERSON!
There you go again! She doesn't brush does she? She's just that kind of extreme character, right?
HELLO?
HELLO?!

EVERYBODY, PLEASE TREAT MIYUKI-SAN NICELY FROM HERE ON OUT!
AM I REALLY THE TYPE WHO IS EASILY PICKED ON?!
I DON'T GET IT!
TRULY LOVES MEGANEKKO

neither rain nor wind


EH? HMM... PROBABLY THE MOST POPULAR ARE KONATA AND KAGAMI, MAYBE...
SO WHAT CHARACTER IS POPULAR IN LUCKY STAR?
A STRANGER THAT LOOKS MUCH LIKE ME WHO COMES TO MY ROOM LOOKING FOR SWEETS AND MANGA.



● My thankful feelings ●

NICE TO MEET YOU. OR, HELLO AGAIN. THIS IS YOSHIMIZU.
THE 3RD VOLUME. THE THIRD VOLUME?! OH, I DO THIS A LOT, HUH?
HOWEVER, THERE MAY BE MANY WHO ARE SURPRISED AT THIS FACT, BUT
THE WORLD'S MOST SURPRISED BEING IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT, MYSELF.
THE SUPPORT OF SO MANY PEOPLE WHO SEND IN ARTWORK AND
MESSAGES TO A HACK LIKE ME HAS TOUCHED MY HEART!
(ON THE OTHER HAND, I WISH TO EXPRESS MY APOLOGIES FOR NOT
BEING BETTER AT WHAT I DO. ¡)

NOW, ON TO MY DIGRESSION.
LET'S NOT HAVE ANY SECRETS. I CONSIDER MYSELF BAD AT WRITING
THIS KIND OF AFTERWORD. THE WORDS JUST DON'T COME TO ME
AT ALL. OR TO BE MORE SPECIFIC, THE POINT OF THE PRODUCTION
SCHEDULE WHERE I AM SUPPOSED TO WRITE MY AFTERWORD IS
WHEN I'M COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED AND NOT PREPARED TO DO
ANYTHING BUT SLEEP.
THE FORTUNATE THING THIS TIME IS THAT THE LUCKY STAR SERIES
IS GOING TO CONTINUE! SO HOPEFULLY NEXT TIME I'LL HAVE A
BIT OF EXTRA TIME TO PUT INTO THIS AFTERWORD, AND CAN DO A
REALLY GOOD JOB AT IT!

AND SO, SINCE I HAVE ARRIVED AT A POINT WHERE I AM NOT
AS DISORGANIZED AS USUAL, I'M GOING TO DRAW THIS NOTE TO
A CLOSE. I LOOK FORWARD TO THE NEXT CHANCE TO MEET UP
WITH YOU IN THE FUTURE.

Kagami
Yoshimizu

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KOGAWA-SAN NANAMI-KUN RYOSHIMA-KUN

TRANSLATOR NOTES

P.15 **PUDDING** WHEREAS AMERICANS MIGHT CONJURE UP IMAGES OF INSTANT PUDDING WHEN HEARING THE WORD, THE JAPANESE CONJURE UP A CUSTARD-LIKE DESERT WITH A CARAMEL-COLORED SWEET SAUCE TOPPING ALL MADE IN THE SHAPE OF AN INVERTED ROUNDED CUP.

P.16 **YOSHIKO** A SERIES OF COMMERCIALS FOR LOTTE GREEN GUM FEATURED ACTRESS RINKO KIKUCHI AS A NORMAL OL (OFFICE LADY) WHO INTERACTS WITH CHIBA LOTTE MARINES PLAYERS IN VARIOUS SITUATIONS. ONE FAMOUS COMMERCIAL HAS HER SITTING ON THE LOTTE BENCH NEXT TO HEAD COACH BOBBY VALENTINE DURING A GAME. A CERTAIN GROUP OF LOTTE FANS DUBBED HER THE "GODDESS" WHO LEAD THE MARINES TO THEIR EVENTUAL WINS IN THE JAPAN SERIES AND ASIA SERIES.

SAKURA TIME THIS WAS WHEN THE EXTREMELY POPULAR ANIME, CARD CAPTOR SAKURA, WAS PLAYING ON THE JAPANESE PUBLIC TV NETWORK, NHK.

P.18 **QUIZ SHOWS** UNLIKE AMERICAN GAME SHOWS THAT USE AVERAGE PEOPLE, JAPANESE QUIZ SHOWS USE PROFESSIONAL TV TALENT, ACTORS, COMMENTATORS, AND NEWS-PEOPLE AS THEIR CONTESTANTS. AND SINCE THE GUESTS ON QUIZ SHOWS AND VARIETY SHOWS OVERLAP SO MUCH, ONE USUALLY FINDS QUIZZES TAKING PLACE IN THE MIDDLE OF VARIETY SHOWS.

P.19 **'SUP** "'SUP" IS THIS TRANSLATION'S REPLACEMENT FOR THE GREETING OSU. THIRTY OR FORTY YEARS AGO, *OSU* (USUALLY PRONOUNCED "OHSS") WAS A GREETING AND AFFIRMATION (LIKE "YES, SIR!") RESERVED FOR PEOPLE IN TOUGH, MALE-DOMINATED SPORTS SUCH AS WRESTLING, MARTIAL ARTS, KENDO, AND SUCH. SINCE THEN, THE GREETING HAS SPREAD TO JUST ABOUT ALL SECTORS OF CASUAL SOCIETY. IT STILL HAS A ROUGH SOUND TO IT, AND ONE WOULD NOT USE IT IN POLITE COMPANY, BUT AMONG JAPANESE HIGH-SCHOOL GIRLS, IT'S A PERFECTLY FINE GREETING.

P.20 **SUMMER HOMEWORK** AS MENTIONED IN EARLIER NOTES, THE JAPANESE SCHOOL YEAR STARTS IN EARLY SPRING, AND SO THE SUMMER VACATION IS SIMPLY A MONTH AND A HALF BREAK BETWEEN SEMESTERS. QUITE A LOT OF HOMEWORK IS ASSIGNED OVER THE MONTH WITH THE IDEA THAT THE STUDENT IS SUPPOSED TO RATION THE HOMEWORK AND COMPLETE A LITTLE EACH DAY. OF COURSE, STUDENTS RARELY CHOOSE THIS COURSE INSTEAD RUSHING TO DO AND FINISH THEIR ASSIGNMENTS IN THE FINAL WEEK OF VACATION.

P21 **TSUKKOMI** IN THE TRADITIONAL 2-PERSON MANZAI STYLE OF STAND-UP COMEDY, ONE PERSON IS THE *BOKE* (DUMB GUY) AND THE ONE MOST COMMONLY THOUGHT OF IN WESTERN COMEDY TERMS AS THE STRAIGHT MAN IS THE *TSUKKOMI* (ANGRY GUY) PART. UNLIKE WESTERN STRAIGHT MEN, THE TSUKKOMI GETS ALMOST AS MANY LAUGHS AS THE BOKE BY POINTING OUT DIFFERENT THINGS THAT ARE WRONG WITH WHAT THE *BOKE* JUST SAID.

P.24 **FUTAE-NO-KIWAMI AND DEMPSEY ROLL** THE FUTAE-NO-KIWAMI IS AN ATTACK USED BY SAGARA SANOSUKE IN RUROUNI KENSHIN, AND THE DEMPSEY ROLL WAS A SIGNATURE MOVE BY BOXER JACK DEMPSEY AND BECAME A TECHNIQUE USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN HAJIME NO IPPO.

P.28 **SUMMER FESTIVALS AND *YUKATA*** SUMMER (ESPECIALLY MID-AUGUST) IS THE *OBON* SEASON. A TIME WHEN ONE USUALLY RETURNS TO THE FAMILY HOME TO VISIT WITH FAMILY AND MAKE A PILGRIMAGE TO THE CEMETERY WHERE ONE'S ANCESTORS ARE INTERRED. BUT ALONG WITH THAT, EVERY COMMUNITY WILL HAVE SOME SORT OF OBON CELEBRATION THAT INCLUDES FESTIVALS, NIGHT-MARKETS, AND IN MANY CASES, FIREWORKS. SINCE THIS IS IN THE HEAT OF HIGH-SUMMER, AND FAVORED MODE OF DRESS, ESPECIALLY FOR GIRLS, IS THE LIGHT, COOL, COTTON KIMONO CALLED *YUKATA*.

P.28 **FLAT CHESTED** TRADITIONAL JAPANESE DRESS (SUCH AS KIMONO AND *YUKATA*) ARE WELL KNOWN IN JAPAN FOR LOOKING BETTER ON WOMEN WITH SMALL BUST SIZES.

P.32 **AKIHABARA** AS MOST OTAKU KNOW, AKIHABARA, WHICH USED TO BE BETTER KNOWN AS THE ELECTRONICS DISTRICT OF TOKYO, HAS EVER SINCE THE 1990S BECOME THE MECCA FOR ALL STRIPES OF OTAKU WITH ITS MANY ANIME, MANGA, GAME, AND COLLECTIBLES SHOPS AS WELL AS OTAKU-ORIENTED CAFÉS AND OTHER OTAKU-SPECIFIC ATTRACTIONS.

P.32 **OTAKU CULTURE** IN 2001, A CINDERELLA STORY RETOLD IN THE FORM OF MESSAGE-BOARD POSTS WAS PUBLISHED IN BOOK FORM TELLING THE STORY OF A TYPICAL OTAKU WHO TRANSFORMS HIMSELF TO WIN THE HEART OF A BEAUTIFUL GIRL HE MET ON A TRAIN. TRAIN-MAN (*DENSHA OTOKO*) BECAME A HUGE HIT AND ITS MOVIE AND TV ADAPTATION STARTED THE (UNFORTUNATELY SHORT-LIVED) OTAKU BOOM IN JAPAN. DURING THE NEXT HALF-DECADE OR SO, OTAKU CULTURE INVADED ALL SORTS OF MAINSTREAM ENTERTAINMENT, OTAKU-THEMED SONGS AND DRAMAS BECAME NUMBER-ONE HITS, AND SUCH PLACES AS MAID CAFÉS BECAME HOUSEHOLD WORDS.

P.32 **BGM** STANDS FOR BACK-GROUND MUSIC, AND LIKE THE NAME IMPLIES, IT'S THE SOUNDTRACK FOR ANIME, GAMES, AND OTHER SUCH ENTERTAINMENT.

P.36 **ACTIVIST JUDGE** OKAY, IT DOESN'T HAVE THE SAME POLITICALLY CHARGED MEANING AS WHEN AN AMERICAN SAYS "ACTIVIST JUDGE," BUT IT'S A LITERAL TRANSLATION OF THE JAPANESE.

P.37 **SAITAMA, NAGOYA** SAITAMA PREFECTURE (THE PLACE THAT IS THE MODEL FOR THE LUCKY STAR SETTING) BORDERS TOKYO, AND MOST OF ITS RESIDENTS TAKE THE SHORT TRAIN RIDE INTO TOKYO FOR SHOPPING, ENTERTAINMENT, SPECIALTY SHOPS, AND ANY OTHER PURPOSE ASIDE FROM ONE'S DAY-TO-DAY NEEDS. NAGOYA IS HALFWAY BETWEEN TOKYO AND OSAKA AND IS CONSIDERED TO BE AT THE HEART OF A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT REGION OF JAPAN. NAGOYA IS FAR ENOUGH AWAY FROM SAITAMA THAT FEW WOULD CONSIDER GOING SIMPLY TO VISIT A RESTAURANT.

P.37 **LOLI-CON** LOLI-CON IS A SHORTENING OF "LOLITA COMPLEX," THE ATTRACTION TOWARD YOUNG GIRLS.

P.38 **JAPANESE CLASS** LIKE ENGLISH CLASS IN AMERICA FOCUSES MORE ON ENGLISH-LANGUAGE BASED HUMANITIES STUDIES, JAPANESE CLASS IN JAPAN FOCUSES ON LEARNING JAPANESE-LANGUAGE-BASED LITERARY CLASSICS AND HUMANITIES.

P.39 **PINO** PINO IS A SMALL, BITE-SIZED, CHOCOLATE-COVERED ICE CREAM TREAT THAT COME IN PACKAGES OF SIX. THEY ARE SORT OF LIKE BITE-SIZED VERSIONS OF THE ORIGINAL KLONDIKE BARS.

P.40 **GETTING INTO *TODAI*** IN JAPAN, THE UNDISPUTED TOP UNIVERSITY IS *TOKYO DAIGAKU* (TOKYO UNIVERSITY) WHICH IS OFTEN SHORTENED TO *TODAI*. IT HAS THE TOUGHEST ENTRANCE EXAM IN THE COUNTRY, AND THE COMPETITION FOR ITS LIMITED NUMBER OF SEATS IS FIERCE. A MANGA-BASED TV DRAMA BY THE NAME OF DRAGON ZAKURA WAS ON TELEVISION ABOUT THE TIME THAT THESE STRIPS WERE WRITTEN. THE STORY WAS ABOUT A SMALL CLASS OF STUDENTS WHO WERE DETERMINED TO PASS THE TODAI ENTRANCE EXAM, AND THE WEIRD TEACHER AND HIS UNCONVENTIONAL STUDY METHODS WHO TRIES TO HELP THEM ACHIEVE THAT GOAL.

P.44 **PEBBLES** OKAY, TIME TO FESS UP. I HAVE NO IDEA WHY THIS STRIP IS TITLED KOISHI (WHICH MEANS "SMALL STONES" OR "PEBBLES"). IF YOU KNOW, PLEASE CONTACT PLEASE CONTACT BANDAI ENTERTAINMENT AND LET US KNOW. WE'RE DYING TO FIND OUT! (BY THE WAY, IT ISN'T BECAUSE OF MINORU SHIRAISHI'S RECORDING OF "KOISHI TEMO!! JANAI," BECAUSE THAT *KOI* ("LOVE") IS A DIFFERENT WORD.)

P.45 **LIGHT HOUSE** THERE'S A SAYING ABOUT HOW IT'S DARK AT THE BASE OF A LIGHT HOUSE. IT MEANS YOU CAN SEE SOMETHING FROM FAR AWAY, BUT WHEN YOU ARE CLOSE TO THE SOURCE, YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SEE ANYMORE.

P.51 **COMIKET** OR MORE FORMALLY, THE COMIC MARKET. A MASSIVE (550,000 ATTENDEES) GATHERING OF MANGA FANS, FAN-MANGA CREATORS CALLED DOUJINSHI CIRCLES, AND SOME PROFESSIONALS FOR A HUGE SELL OFF OF DOUJINSHI AND OTHER FANNISH ITEMS. THERE ARE TWO HELD EVERY YEAR, ONCE IN SUMMER AND ONCE IN WINTER.

P.51 **ALL-NIGHTERS, ETC.** IT IS AGAINST THE RULES (AND IS POSSIBLY ILLEGAL) TO WAIT IN LINE ALL NIGHT TO GET INTO COMIKET BEFORE THE SHOW STARTS, BUT GETTING ADMITTED TO THE SITE EARLY IS A MUST FOR SOME FANS SINCE VERY POPULAR DOUJINSHI CIRCLES SELL OUT OF THEIR MAGAZINES WITHIN A FEW HOURS OF THE OPENING. SO THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF STRATEGIES. A TICKET TYPE (*COMIKETTO-GUMO*) CAN GET IN EARLY AS A PART OF A DOUJINSHI CIRCLE. A DUMMY CIRCLE IS A CIRCLE THAT DOESN'T ACTUALLY SELL MAGAZINES, BUT IS FORMED SIMPLY TO GET INTO COMIKET EARLY. AN URIKO IS A GIRL WHOSE LOOKS ARE USED BY CIRCLES TO BOOST DRAW CUSTOMERS AND INCREASE SALES.

P.53 **KANJI FOR "RIVER"** SLEEPING LIKE THE CHARACTER FOR "RIVER" IS A COMMON PHRASE FOR A COUPLE WITH ONE CHILD. THE KANJI FOR RIVER IS MADE UP OF THREE LINES, A LONG LINE ON THE LEFT, A SHORT LINE IN THE MIDDLE, AND ANOTHER LONG LINE ON THE RIGHT. THIS LOOKS LIKE A FATHER, BABY AND MOTHER ALL SLEEPING SIDE-BY-SIDE. THE CHARACTER FOR "LITTLE" IS, AS IN THE ILLUSTRATION, A SHORT LINE ON THE LEFT, A LONG LINE IN THE MIDDLE, AND ANOTHER SHORT LINE ON THE RIGHT.

P.59 **ARTS FESTIVAL** EVERY YEAR, USUALLY IN AUTUMN, EVERY SCHOOL IN JAPAN HOLDS A *BUNKA-SAI* ("ARTS FESTIVAL"). IT USUALLY CONSISTS OF EACH HOMEROOM, CLUB, AND ORGANIZATION PRODUCING SOME FORM OF SHOP OR ENTERTAINMENT DURING A SCHOOL-WIDE FAIR.

P.65 **PHONE-ETICS** THE JAPANESE TITLE, *RENDOU*, MEANS "WORKING TOGETHER," BUT GIVEN THE CONTEXT, IT COULD ALSO BE PARSED AS A

SHORTENED VERSION OF RENRAKU-UNDOU, WHICH MEANS "CONTACT (BY PHONE) EXERCISES." I REPLACED THIS UNTRANSLATABLE PUN WITH SOMETHING CLOSE IN ENGLISH.

P.65 ***BOWING OVER THE PHONE*** IN JAPAN, BOWING IS DONE DOZENS (IF NOT HUNDREDS) OF TIMES A DAY, WHEN MEETING SOMEONE, WHEN PASSING ON THE STREET, WHEN SAYING GOODBYE, WHEN THANKING SOMEONE, AS A SIMPLE POLITE GESTURE, AMONG MANY OTHER OCCASIONS. IT'S SO INGRAINED THAT NEARLY ALL JAPANESE UNCONSCIOUSLY BOW WHEN TALKING ON THE PHONE AS WELL. EVEN FOREIGNERS WHO LIVE IN JAPAN FOR AN EXTENDED TIME GET INTO THE SAME HABIT, AND FIND THEMSELVES MAKING THE SAME GESTURES WHILE TALKING ON THE PHONE.

P.73 ***SUMMER JUMBO*** SUMMER JUMBO IS A HIGH-JACKPOT LOTTERY THAT IS HELD EVERY SUMMER. THE TICKETS ARE SOLD WITH PREPRINTED NUMBERS FOR 300 YEN (ABOUT $3) A TICKET, AND AT THE END OF A SPECIFIED PERIOD, A DRAWING IS HELD.

P.74 ***BRAIN TRAINING*** FOR MOST OF THE DECADE OF 2000-2010, IT BECAME A FAD TO TRY TO IMPROVE YOUR BRAIN POWER THROUGH IQ-TEST-LIKE QUIZZES. THESE QUIZZES WERE MOSTLY FOUND IN BOOKS, BUT ALSO FOUND ON TV QUIZ SHOWS AND IN GAMES, ESPECIALLY PORTABLE GAMES SUCH AS THE NINTENDO DS (DOUBLE SCREEN).

P.76 ***DRAMA CDS*** POPULAR MANGA ARE OFTEN ADAPTED INTO RADIO-STYLE DRAMAS AND RELEASED ON CD WELL BEFORE THEY ARE ADAPTED INTO ANIME OR LIVE-ACTION TV DRAMAS. IN MANY CASES THE DRAMA CD VOICE ACTORS WILL REPRISE THEIR ROLES FOR THE ANIMATED VERSION.

P.86 ***HERE HE !!!!!S*** THE OTAKU-BOOM (SEE ABOVE NOTE) STARTER NOVEL, DENSHA OTOKO (TRAIN-MAN) WAS SAID TO HAVE ORIGINALLY BEEN A TAKEN FROM ACTUAL POSTS TO THE OTAKU-FAVORITE INTERNET MESSAGE BOARD 2-CHANNEL (OR 2-CHAN AS IT IS KNOWN TO ITS USERS). AND WHEN THE CHARACTER WITH THE USERNAME DENSHA-OTOKO WOULD COME ONTO 2-CHAN TO REPORT THE LATEST NEWS OF HIS UNLIKELY ROMANCE, THE OTHER MESSAGE BOARD USERS WOULD GREET HIS ARRIVAL WITH THE PHRASE *"KITAAAAAAAAA----!!"* WHICH IS AN ENTHUSIASTIC WAY OF SAYING, "HERE HE IS!"

P.91 ***BOOKIES*** THE TITLE IN JAPANESE, *HONTE!* IS A WORD THAT MEANS "ONE'S RESIDENCE." THAT MEANING OBVIOUSLY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE STRIP, BUT SINCE HON MEANS "BOOK" AND TEI CAN HAVE ANY NUMBER OF MEANINGS INCLUDING "APPEARANCES" OR "SUGGESTION," IT SEEMED THAT THE TITLE WAS CHOSEN AS A PUN RELATING TO THE WORD "BOOK." SO I CHOSE A PUN TITLE THAT FIT THAT CONCEPT AND SAVED THE EXPLANATION FOR THESE NOTES.

MUNDANE FAN COMMUNITIES IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES CALL NORMAL PEOPLE "MUNDANES" IN MUCH THE SAME WAY THAT HARRY POTTER FANS CALL NORMAL PEOPLE "MUGGLES."

P.93 ***ONE OF THESE THINGS*** NO, IN THE JAPANESE VERSION, KONATA DIDN'T USE THE FAMOUS SESAME STREET SONG, "ONE OF THESE THINGS IS NOT LIKE THE OTHER," BUT THE WORDS SHE USED DOES TRANSLATE OUT TO A PHRASE WITH THE VERY SAME MEANING.

P.97 ***FUJI TV NETWORK*** FUJI TV IS BOTH A CHANNEL IN THE TOKYO AREA AND A CREATOR OF TELEVISION CONTENT MEANT FOR NATION-WIDE BROADCASTS. HOWEVER, THE TV STATIONS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTRY THAT USE FUJI TV'S CONTENT DO NOT PRIMARILY IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS A FUJI TV AFFILIATE (AS, SAY, A CBS AFFILIATE WOULD IN AMERICA), AND THEY DO NOT NECESSARILY SHOW FUJI TV PROGRAMS AT THE SAME TIME AS THEY DO IN TOKYO. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE FOR LATE-NIGHT PROGRAMS.

P.102 ***AIRPOTS*** SINCE TEA IS SO UBIQUITOUS IN JAPAN, MACHINES THAT MAKE IT EASIER TO SERVE TEA ARE VERY POPULAR. THE AIRPOT IS ONE SUCH DEVICE. IT SERVES TO KEEP WATER AT A HIGH TEMPERATURE SO THAT TEA CAN BE SERVED AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE. BUT IT CAN ALSO BE USED FOR OTHER HOT-WATER APPLICATIONS SUCH AS INSTANT SOUP AND ADDING WATER FOR CUP RAMEN.

P.103 ***CELL PHONES ON TRAINS*** IT IS AGAINST THE RULES AND CONSIDERED VERY RUDE TO TALK ON CELL PHONES WHILE RIDING TRAINS IN JAPAN (TEXTING AND OTHER SILENT TASKS ARE ALLOWED). HOWEVER, THERE IS A SMALL SECTION OF SEATS SET ASIDE FOR THE HANDICAPPED, ELDERLY, AND PREGNANT WOMEN. IF ONE IS SITTING IN OR STANDING NEAR ONE OF THOSE SEATS, ONE MUST TURN OFF ONE'S CELL PHONE ENTIRELY.

P.104 ***MANIA*** WHEN YOU TYPE INTO A JAPANESE WORD PROCESSOR, YOU FIRST TYPE THE PHONETIC *HIRAGANA* CHARACTERS, AND WITH A TOUCH OF A BUTTON (USUALLY THE SPACE BAR), THOSE WORDS GET CHANGED TO *KANJI*, *KATAGANA*, OR OTHER JAPANESE CHARACTERS THAT ARE APPROPRIATE TO THE SENTENCE. BUT THERE ARE A LOT OF HOMOPHONES (SOUND-ALIKE WORDS) IN JAPANESE, AND SO THERE ARE MANY VARIATIONS ON THE *KANJI* THAT CAN APPEAR WITH ANY PARTICULAR WORD. THE PROGRAMS "LEARN" IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE WORDS YOU USE THE MOST OFTEN COME UP FIRST. SO, KAGAMI LEARNS THAT (FOR EXAMPLE) KONATA USES THE WORD "DRESSING IN DRAG" FOR THE JAPANESE SOUND JOSOU MORE THAN SHE USES "RUNNING START." NOT A THING YOU'D REALLY WANT TO KNOW ABOUT A CLOSE FRIEND.

P.106 ***TSUN-DERE*** SEE THE NOTE IN VOLUME 2 OR TURN TO P.126 AND READ KAGAMI'S DEFINITION OF THE TERM.

P.115 ***BINCHOUTAN*** A MOE-STYLE MANGA AND ANIME THAT AIRED IN JAPAN IN THE SPRING OF 2006.

P.117 ***YU-CHATTA*** THIS IS A PUN BASED ON YUTAKA'S NICKNAME, YU-CHAN, AND THE PHRASE, "I WENT AND SAID SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE," WHICH CAN BE PRONOUNCED, *YUCHATTA*.

P.118 ***SICK-BED VISIT*** SICK-BED VISITS OR OMIMAI (NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH MARRIAGE MEETINGS, OMIAI) ARE A LONG-OBSERVED CUSTOM IN JAPAN. FRIENDS AND FAMILY USUALLY BRING SNACKS, FRUITS, FLOWERS OR OTHER GIFTS, SIT BY THE BED, AND CONVERSE WITH THE BED-RIDDEN PATIENT FOR A WHILE. IT IS USUALLY NOT PRACTICED FOR ILLNESSES AS LIGHT AS COLDS, BUT THERE IS NO CUSTOM THAT PROHIBITS IT EITHER.

P.132 ***BOBBY OLOGUN*** BOBBY OLOGUN IS A NIGERIAN-NATIVE WHO BECAME A TV PERSONALITY IN JAPAN. HE IS MOST NORMALLY NOTED FOR FUNNY MISPRONUNCIATIONS OF JAPANESE WORDS, HOWEVER ABOUT THE TIME THAT THESE STRIPS WERE BEING WRITTEN HE STARTED FIGHTING IN PROFESSIONAL MIXED MARTIAL-ARTS MATCHES IN JAPAN SUCH AS K-1 AND PRIDE.

ROYCE GRACIE AFTER ONLY A MONTH OF TRAINING, BOBBY OLOGUN FACED BRAZILIAN-BORN JUJUTSU LEGEND ROYCE GRACIE IN A SPARRING MATCH. BOBBY ACTUALLY LOST THE MATCH, BUT DID MUCH BETTER THAN EXPECTED.

BOBBY VALENTINE BOBBY VALENTINE IS AN EX-BASEBALL PLAYER WHO IN THE PAST MANAGED THE TEXAS RANGERS AND THE NEW YORK METS. HE IS PRESENTLY (AS OF THIS TRANSLATION) MANAGING THE CHIBA LOTTE MARINES, AND IS ONE OF THE FEW AMERICANS TO BECOME A LONG-TERM SUCCESS MANAGING IN THE JAPANESE LEAGUES.

P.133 ***GUM*** AS NOTED ON THE NOTES FOR P.16, LOTTE MAKES SEVERAL DIFFERENT FLAVORS OF GUM WHICH WERE PROBABLY ONE OF THE SELECT DISCOUNTED ITEMS AFTER THE CHIBA LOTTE MARINES WON THE JAPAN SERIES.

KOALA'S MARCH KOALA'S MARCH IS A LOTTE-MADE COOKIE SNACK WITH SWEET FILLINGS SUCH AS CHOCOLATE, STRAWBERRY ON THE INSIDE.

LOTTERIA LOTTERIA IS LOTTE'S MCDONALD'S-LIKE FAST-FOOD CHAIN.

P.136 ***PENCIL BOARDS*** KNOWN BETTER TO OTAKU BY THEIR JAPANESE NAME *SHITAJIKI*, THEY ARE LAMINATED PLASTIC BOARDS THAT ARE USUALLY MEANT TO BE PLACED UNDER A SHEET OF PAPER IN A NOTEBOOK (MEMO PAD, ETC) TO PROVIDE A HARD SURFACE TO WRITE ON. HOWEVER MAKERS OF ANIME AND MANGA STARTED DECORATING THESE SIMPLE, CHEAP DEVICES WITH ARTWORK, MAKING SOME OF THEM VERY COLLECTIBLE. NOW, LIKE UCHIWA FANS, THEY ARE A CHEAP WAY TO ADVERTISE SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS DOUJINSHI CIRCLES AND THE LIKE.

P.139 ***FMA*** FMA REFERS TO FULL METAL ALCHEMIST.

P.141 ***GOING VEGETARIAN*** THIS COMMENT IS NOT MEANT TO INSULT VEGETARIANS, BUT RATHER BE AN INDICATION OF HOW PEOPLE LIVING IN POVERTY IN JAPAN TEND TO SKIMP ON MEAT IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THEIR FOOD BUDGETS.

SALTED RICE GRUEL RICE GRUEL (OR RICE PORRIDGE), CALLED OKAYU IN JAPANESE, IS A SOUPY RICE DISH THAT CAN BE MADE WITH NOTHING MORE THAN RICE AND WATER. IT IS MAINLY THOUGHT OF AS A DISH FOR SICK PEOPLE (BECAUSE IT IS REPORTEDLY EASY TO DIGEST), HOWEVER FEW WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO IT AS AN EVERYDAY MEAL.

P.143 ***KOBAN, PEARLS*** A STANDARD JAPANESE PROVERB *"NEKO NI KOBAN"* ("GIVE A CAT A KOBAN GOLD COIN"), IS VERY CLOSE IN MEANING TO THE WESTERN PROVERB, "TO CAST PEARLS BEFORE SWINE," SINCE BOTH ARE SAYINGS THAT TALK ABOUT GIVING SOMETHING VALUABLE TO SOMEONE WHO CANNOT APPRECIATE IT.

P.150 ***MEGANEKKO*** THERE IS A SMALL GROUP OF MEN WHO FETISHIZE CUTE GIRLS WHO WEAR GLASSES, AND THERE IS ANIME AND QUITE A FEW MANGA BASED SIMPLY ON THESE WOMEN. THE WORD IS MADE UP OF THE WORD FOR "GLASSES," *MEGANE*, AND THE WORD FOR GIRL (OR CHILD) *KO*.

Lucky☆Star

Yoshimizu☆Kagami

3

HM... WON'T YOU MAKE THE MOST PROG-RESS IF YOU JUST START TO ENJOY STUDYING?
HUH?!
DON'T YOU HAVE ANY TRICKS TO MAKE ME STUDY BETTER?
...you want to study it!
As long as you like it...

WELL, IF YOU CAN JUST SOLVE PROBLEMS QUICK AND EASY, YOU GET TO LIKE IT, RIGHT?
HUH?!
SO HOW DO YOU GO ABOUT LEARNING TO LIKE STUDY-ING?
OH... I THINK I SEE.
Don't you know anything?

Eh? What do I have to apologize for?

It's not something I can talk about here.

If you agree to take a look at Volume 4, maybe I'll tell you!

That's a lie! Um... but anyways... Please consider buying the next volume! >△<

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